THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Winter 2019 *Volume 27, Number 4*

Who Engraved this 1773 Virginia Halfpenny? See Page 22. .

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Winter 2019

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(Jack Howes)

It turned officially to winter a few weeks ago, but it was a strange December here. We got almost a foot a snow in mid-November a week before the C4 convention and none since then. It was 60 degrees and sunny the day before Christmas. What next?

I am, however, pleased to report on the initial results of an important club effort. At the previous year's convention (2018) the board decided to create several videos that would explain colonial collecting in interesting ways to hopefully a new generation of collectors. We identified a talented young student, Lianna Spurrier. She and Chris McDowell along with assists from other club members have produced four educational videos on Colonial coinage - Specifically, videos on Fugio coppers, Connecticut coppers, Vermont coppers, and New Jersey coppers. All four videos were placed on the C4 website a few weeks ago and can be found at: http://colonialcoins.org/c4media/

These videos are designed to present a short introduction to each series. The videos depict a brief history of the coins along with information on how they are collected today. In preparing the videos, C4 drew upon the expertise of several individuals including Q. David Bowers (Vermonts), Roger Siboni, myself and Ray Williams (New Jersey coppers), and Christopher McDowell (Connecticut and Fugio coppers).

Lianna and Chris are currently working on one additional video on Massachusetts coppers with assistance from Mike Packard that should be finalized in another month. The officers and directors of C4 are very pleased with these educational videos and hope that using this media we can reach a younger and wider audience. The videos help fulfill C4's charter mission of educating the public about colonial numismatics.

After one year, C4 intends to license the videos to the Newman Portal so they can reach even more people. I have already seen a cluster of new members join after these videos were posted. I can't with certainty attribute these members joining directly to this effort, but it is indicative. I will report further on this as the story develops.

At this year's board meeting, one prominent topic was the video effort. The board voted unanimously to award Lianna with a $300 bonus for her work on our videos. In addition, the board has asked her to attend the next C4 convention in Baltimore in November 2020 and she has accepted. The Club will pay for Lianna's travel and hotel.

I can also say without reservation that this was another in a string of great conventions! It is always a fun three days and it was great to see lots of C4 friends. This year had the added bonus (well for some) of almost continuous auctions of outstanding quality. It is hard to complain about such bounty, but I could have done with a couple fewer auctions. My view was that medals and historical material went for strong prices. Connecticuts were weak but looking on the bright side, this is a great time to be building a Connecticut collection. The New Jersey coppers auction was one for the books – very strong bidding by many people. It was entertaining.

My coin for this issue is one that showed up at the convention, but it was one I knew from long ago. It is not pretty but interesting. I saw this same coin about 15 years ago in Boston before I had portable photography equipment. I never expected to see it again. It walked up to Jim Skalbe's table and I was sitting at the C4 table, which old timers will remember was right next to Skalbe and right in front of a window. I was studying Massachusetts silver at the time and this was the first clipped Willow Tree shilling I had seen. I did not record who brought it in. But Charles Wallace showed me this coin and I suspect it was he who brought it to Boston many years ago also. I am still looking for a clipped NE shilling. If anyone has one, please bring for me to photo at the next convention. Enjoy.

[Editor's Note(s): Thanks to our authors, this issue has a nice mix of topics, from traditional 'colonials,' to foreign incidentals, to counterfeits. Perhaps owing to the season, the flow of articles has slowed somewhat and promised articles have been delayed. So, on these cold winter days when little else is stirring, please consider writing and submitting an article for this newsletter. You will be proud that you did.

Please take note of the membership reminder inserts. And, take time to view the videos to which Jack referred in his message. They are excellent.]

MINUTES OF THE C4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2019-- BALTIMORE

At 8:00 the meeting was called to order by President Jack Howes.

In Attendance: Jack Howes, Charlie Rohrer, Leo Shane, Wayne Shelby, Chris McDowell, Mitch Mitchell, Jim Glickman, Will Nipper, Craig McDonald, Dave Menchell, Gregory Field, Mike Wierzba, Jim Rosen, Jay Knipe

Website and Yahoo Group Status: The recent policy change by Yahoo Groups was discussed. It was felt that the club would be better served by looking for an alternative. Jack offered to ask the NNP (Newman Numismatic Portal) if they would work with the club to develop a "C4 Group" hosted by the portal. Participation would not be restricted to club members and could result in more club visibility/recognition. Craig brought up the possibility of a C4 Group on iGroups. This will be considered if the NNP approach is not feasible. In either case, it was agreed that a new C4 Group should be able to integrate with the club website. Regarding the website, concerns about the timeliness of updates, continued maintenance and the ability/cost to upload photos to the Forum were discussed. Jack proposed a "Web Scout" who would regularly feed new content to Brian for uploading to the site (Jack has a new member in mind to ask). For maintenance, the Board approved a motion to authorize $1500 as continued payment to Brian through 2021. The cost of photo storage on the website and the ease/ability to upload videos needs to be determined.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) Jack to discuss options with NNP

2) Jack to approach a new member to be a "Web scout"

Treasurer's Report: Charlie Rohrer reported that club assets as of 10/24/19 were $111,010.67 (very similar to the same period in 2018). The base payment was received from SBG for the auction. However, it was mentioned that, because 4 of the Stack's Bowers Galleries auctions (Adams, Morgan, Martin, and E Pluribus Unum) were considered to be C4-affiliated, the final payment to the club could be significantly higher. This will need to be verified and determined with SBG. The current 3-year contract with SBG will expire after the 2020 auction. For reference, the contract terms are:

1) Annual base payment of $6,625

2) $1,500 additional if consignments from non-dealer C4 members exceed $500,000 hammer

3) $2,500 additional if consignments from non-dealer C4 members exceed $750,000 hammer

4) 4) $5,000 additional if consignments from non-dealer C4 members exceed $1,500,000 hammer

Charlie also indicated the total club membership was 374.

Videos: Chris McDowell briefly explained the process by which the new videos were created; it is lengthy requiring 2-3 months for each video. Over the past 12 months 4 videos covering copper coinage have been completed (Fugio, Connecticut, Vermont and New Jersey), with 2 additional planned (Massachusetts coppers and possibly Counterfeits). The total cost to the club has been about $800; all agreed that this was a very reasonable cost. Upon Chris' suggestion, the club voted to pay Lianna a bonus of $300 as well as invite her (and cover costs of her trip) to attend the 2020 C4 meeting. A discussion regarding the video ownership (they are owned by C4) and the best way to utilize them to both promote interest in colonial collecting and enhance club recognition/visibility followed. Initially, Chris will work with Brian to have them loaded onto the website and also explore ways to generate publicity for them (press release in Coin World, article in ESylum, give to ANA for outreach, etc.). Chris indicated that any distribution of the videos should be delayed for at least 1 year after they appear on the C4 Website.

Publications: The Virginia book by Roger Moore was released at the convention accompanied by a book-signing. An initial 200 copies were published and offered through Charlie Davis (he indicated he sold all he brought to Baltimore). The publication cost was $13,000 to Sheriden, plus $500 for dust jacket design. In the event a second printing will be required, Jack will be in touch with Sheriden for a cost estimate. In 2020 it is expected that Randy Clark's one-volume CT book will be published (nearly complete, with introductory text in progress). It is expected that the publication cost for that book will be about $3-5,000, as the photos are B&W, not color. Charlie Davis suggested a print run of 350 copies.

Awards: A number of awards were presented at the Thursday evening function. Dave Bowers was given a lifetime achievement award, while Roger Siboni, Erik Goldstein and David McCarthy received the first Eric Newman Lecture Series awards. Chris McDowell received an award for the best colonial publication, his article on "Fiscal Paper and the Financing of the Revolutionary War". Dennis Wierzba was presented a special award to recognize his role in organizing many past C4 conventions. Descriptions of all of these awards are planned to be uploaded to the C4 Website.

Other Business: The discussion of the awards led into a broader one concerning other ways to generate interest in/publicity for C4, especially ways that the club can engage younger individuals and encourage their membership. Gregory Field mentioned the Facebook group set up by Greg Hannigan; it promotes general coin discussions, posting of photos and is a forum for selling and trading. The numbers of followers have grown considerably, presumably including many youth. The group provides, through dealer sponsors, free EAC memberships. Greg will contact Greg Hannigan about the possibility of working with colonial dealers (Kevin Vinton also) to offer C4 memberships as another way to broaden club visibility.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Knipe, C4 Secretary

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION AT THE 2019 C4 ANNUAL CONVENTION IN BALTIMORE

Left: Dave Bowers accepted C4's Lifetime Achievement Award for his myriad and longstanding contributions to colonial numismatics. Right: Dennis Weirzba was recognized for his many years of tireless effort in making C4 conventions successful. A former President himself, he is flanked in the photo by current President, Jack Howes and Immediate Past President, Jim Rosen. Dale Isaac photos.

All three Thursday talks were outstanding. Left: Chris McDowell introduced his revealing new research on so-called 'New Haven restrike' Fugios. Right: Roger Siboni enlightened the audience on the American Plantation Tokens. Dale Isaac photos.

David McCarthy and Erik Goldstein discussed their revolutionary findings on the origins of the Continental Currency Coins. All four speakers were recognized with awards for their scholarly contributions. Dale Isaac photos.

Roger Moore received two C4 Book Awards, for his leadership of the Contemporary Counterfeit book project and for his new book on the Colonial Coinage of Virginia. Dale Isaac photo.

A THEORY ON THE ORIGIN OF THE 1783 NOVA CONSTELLATIO, CROSBY 1-A

(Jim Rosen)

In the 2019 summer issue of the *C4 Newsletter*, an article by Jeff Rock on contemporary counterfeit colonial coins stated categorically that the 1783 Nova Constellatio 1-A variety is a counterfeit, a coin made in a clandestine facility (my choice of words) and not in a legitimate mint. Throughout this communication, I am going to use the word "coin" (or "coins") to describe the Nova Constellatios. In the strict sense of the word, the 1-A should not really be considered a counterfeit, for the coinage as a whole was made to order not by an official government, but rather by merchants in New York City. It certainly appears that the 1783 1-A Nova and certainly the 1783 2-B Nova were modeled after the 5 Unit Copper patterns of Morris and Morris. Although the exact location of the 1-A's production remains a mystery, Rock suggests as a "gut feeling" that this emission was an American-made product. The idea that the 1783 1-A is a counterfeit seems to stem from Mike Ringo's 1995 observation described in the *Colonial Newsletter* (*CNL*) pp.1515-1520 that many of the letters and numbers of the 1-A appear to be punch linked to the 1783 GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO. However, Lou Jordan's article in the *CNL* (2000, pp. 2127-2148) gives one some pause to make that direct correlation. Regardless of your thoughts about the die linkage, it does seem quite clear that the diemaker and pressman for the 1783 1-A Nova were somewhat inexperienced and not the same folks who produced the 2-B.

To paraphrase Q. David Bowers, the study of pre-federal copper coinage is associated with very few facts, but modern opinions and guesses are plentiful and, with time, can morph into theories and then evolve into facts. This I believe has happened to the 1783 Nova Constellatio 1-A. As it is not the intent of this communication to review the Nova Constellatio series in depth, one is directed to two excellent reviews on the subject by Eric P. Newman (*Coinage of the Americas* conference proceedings, or *COAC*, 1995, pp.79-114) and Louis Jordan (*CNL*, 2000, pp 2127-2147).

After reading Rock's article and other articles on the subject and examining a number of 1783 1-A Nova Constellatios, I have arrived at a different conclusion as to the origin of the 1-A and its location of production. I believe that the 1-A was *not* made in a clandestine mint in America, but rather in Birmingham, England, possibly in the same mint that produced the 2-B, or possibly in another legitimate mint in Birmingham. There were many legitimate mints in Birmingham at the time that were capable of producing these coins. I think it is risky to categorically state that a coin is a "counterfeit" without very solid evidence to support one's position. And to state positively that a coin is a counterfeit based on the letter and number punches of one stamping is dubious at best. My theory, as described below, as to how these 1-As came to be, is grounded on the following thoughts and observations as well as discussions with selected, erudite numismatists.

a. The coins of the 1783 1-A variety all come with damage on the obverse and are not made with the excellent skill as seen in the 2-B, its proposed successor. The 1-A does not fully copy the 5 Unit Copper in its rays count and its overall quality of workmanship. Aside from the obverse damage, the failing die continued to be used as seen in late die states of the 1-A, which are quite plentiful. However, this

author has seen very high grade early die state 1-As which are stamped on well-made planchets. If one did not have the Nova 2-B to compare it to, this coin, in its very early die state, is not only quite nice with pleasant cartwheel luster but very acceptable even with the above-mentioned damage.

b. The gang punch damage on the obverse, as pointed out quite nicely by Eric Newman in his 1995 *COAC* article, is barely curved and as such, most likely *not* associated with the 1-A Nova but probably related to a larger coin or medal that would use a straighter gang punch. It would be extremely unlikely that a clandestine mint would be producing large coins or medals and, thus, have a large gang punch hanging around to fall on the annealed die.

c. The 1-A is "medal turn" not coin turn as are all other well-made Nova Constellatios, again suggesting inexperience of the pressman.

d. The failed obverse die continued to be used as these late die specimens are seen often in worn condition, attesting to their continued circulation in commence.

e. Although not a very strong point, the 1-As are frequently found on heavier planchets as compared to the many counterfeit British halfpennies which had infiltrated significantly into American commerce.

Given these thoughts and observations, it is certainly possible that the individuals associated with making and striking these coins were inexperienced craftsman, possibly just finishing their apprenticeship. At the time period we are discussing, there were more than a dozen die cutters and an equal number of shops in Birmingham stamping out coins, tokens, and medals, one of which I believe made this 1-A rather than a clandestine American mint.

Thus, my scenario and theory, taking into account the above facts and observations, is as follows: The Nova 1-A Constellatios appear to have been ordered by a merchant in New York, most likely representing a partnership composed of Robert Morris, Gouverneur Morris and William Constable with John Rucker joining the firm while in London in June of 1784 (*The Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, March 16, 1786.) The coins appear to be modeled after the 5 Unit Copper of Morris and Morris, (Jordan, *CNL,* 2000, pp 2127-2148.) Guesses are that they were received in New York City, probably by William Constable, although who received them is not pertinent to this hypothesis. It is my thought that when the 1783 1-A Novas were received in New York, the owners were disappointed in their product as they did not compare favorably with the 5 Unit Copper. Thus, they sent a communication to the manufacturing company in Birmingham England explaining their dissatisfaction with the coins (Eric Newman, in his 1995 *COAC* article on the Nova Constellatios, also wrote a sentence somewhat suggesting a similar idea). The owners of the coins I theorize wanted a better made coin that not only represented an improvement in the likeness of the 5 Unit Copper of the Morris patterns, but also, I suspect, a coin of higher quality with no obverse defects, no late obverse die states, and a coin that is coin turn. Given the large number of coin stamping facilities in Birmingham at the time as well as the large number of skilled artisans there, it is not too much of a stretch to believe that another mint or possibly artisans in the same mint gave birth to the 2-B at the strong request of the merchants in New York. Apparently, their message, assuming my theory is correct, seemed to work as the 2-B is found with a much greater

resemblance to the 5 Unit Copper (same number of rays), is coin turn and is a coin of a much higher quality, with no coins showing surface damage or severe die failure.

It is important to acknowledge that my theory is just a theory with no facts to support it and Jeff Rock's opinions are just that, opinions. It is for time and discovery to decide which one of us is correct.

Top left: 1783 Nova Constellatio, Crosby 1-A, early die state.
Top right: 1783 Nova Constellatio, Crosby 1-A, late die state.
Middle: 1783 Nova Constellatio, Crosby 2-B.
Bottom: Morris' 1783 Nova Constellatio pattern 'Five.'
(Photo courtesy of Professional Coin Grading Service, PCGS.com.)

A VISIT TO SAMUEL HIGLEY'S NEIHBORHOOD: THE NEWLY REOPENED NEW-GATE PRISON

(Dr. David F. Townson)

Introduction

On Bastille Day, July 14th 2018, the State of Connecticut opened the Old New-Gate prison in East Granby CT. Better known to colonial enthusiasts for its proximity to the birthplace of our beloved Higley coppers, the site is now a National Historic Landmark and Archeological Preserve.[1] It is now known that Higley's mines were located about 1.5 miles away. Nevertheless, the mines that eventually became the old prison must have been very similar to Higley's. The purpose of this article is to describe the prison site and offer some opinions and additional historical information that may not be widely known.

The first thing to realize if you are considering a visit is to set your expectations accordingly. If you are looking to have that "connection-to-place" experience near in place and time to where the Higley coinage happened, you may certainly be satisfied. This would occur even though the coinage and its creators take at best a very distant back seat with respect to the manner in which the site is presented to visitors.

Photo 1.

The Site

The immediate vicinity of the site is clearly historic – directly across the narrow road is the 18th century Viets' Tavern, which I found of particular interest due to the legend that Higley supposedly set the initial value of his coins to help cover the cost of his desired beverages "at a local tavern." Could this be THAT tavern? It is hard to say – at first glance the answer is 'no' as the estimated date of the construction is late 18th century (precise date is not known but posted at "circa 1790.") However, further scholarship indicates a definite 'maybe.'

Records suggest that a license to keep a "house of entertainment" was granted as early as 1712 to Dr. John Viets, father of John Viets, Jr., the first warden of the prison.[1] Whether the standing tavern was the original or was expanded from an older original structure, or perhaps the original tavern was located elsewhere, is not known to this author. The grounds of the tavern were open for visitors on the day I visited, so I walked the property imagining how many Higleys were transformed into pints of ale or were spent later in the century by thirsty travelers.

The Tour

The prison site is surrounded by a 12-foot stone wall (See photo 1.) for the prison and houses the mine entrance, guardhouse, remnants of stone walls, and other structures. Access is gained for a small fee through the new Visitor Center building which offers the usual items, including copies of Higley coins (See photos 2 and 3.)

Photos 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

Once you are inside the walls the format is a self-guided walking tour that employs informational panels at various locations, generally near the remains of buildings and structures associated with the ore treatment processes. A few tour-guides are stationed here and there to answer visitors' questions.

On the tour you will have to be very observant to catch any references to Higley coppers. Photo 4 shows the only image that I could locate on the tour. In fact, the uninformed visitor would need to successfully play connect-the-dots to understand that Higley's coppers were coined nearby and long before the site was ever used as a prison (the date on the coin being one of the subtle clues.)

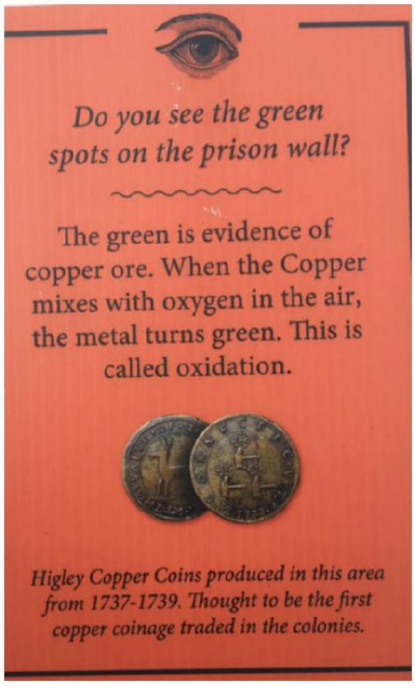
Do you see the green spots on the prison wall?
The green is evidence of copper ore. When the Copper mixes with oxygen in the air, the metal turns green. This is called oxidation.
Higley Copper Coins produced in this area from 1737-1739. Thought to be the first copper coinage traded in the colonies.

Photo 4.

The primary focus of the tour is as a prison and the site's timeline of history (presented on an informational panel in the old guard house building.) The timeline starts with "1705/07" when copper was discovered, and the mining area was owned by a consortium of residents who initially reserved profits for the benefit of a school master and to support Yale college. The timeline then skips to 1773 with the opening of the mine as a prison. Only through the panel noted earlier (photo 4) which is outside along the tour might one catch a glimpse of that gap between 1707 – 1773 when Higley's coins were created.

Interestingly, the site has been an unofficial landmark of sorts for a very long time. Back in the late 1800s it was a popular tourist trap of sorts offering tours of the old prison, with the guard house seeing use as a dance hall, zoo, or even available for rent for any kind of general public event according to some photos that I viewed in the guard house.

The Mine as a Prison

The highlight of the tour for me was the opportunity to descend into the copper mine itself. The mine served as a prison for about 50 years with its usage during the revolutionary war emphasized on the tour, though many other criminals were housed over the decades. The name "New-Gate" or "Newgate" was potentially taken from the infamous London county jail in England. The claim-to-fame as presented by the State is as the oldest prison in the country. Crimes that got one sent to New-Gate included: robbery, burglary, horse-stealing, forgery, and counterfeiting.

Access to the mine nowadays is gained through a set of concrete stairs that starts under a covered roof structure (See photo 5.) The original mine entrance was a vertical shaft with the entrance located in the guard house. The entrance was capped with an iron-bound wooden door in the floor of the guardhouse.

Photo 5.

The mine is, well, like a mine…dark, cold, and damp. Once you get down the stairs you can continue exploring on your own but caution and good footwear is recommended. The 'floor' (bedrock) is not level and constantly wet and slippery.

At places in the mine you can spot initials carved into the rock reportedly made by prisoners. It is hard to imagine spending the bulk of your day in these conditions. Punishment could also take the form of solitary confinement which was in effect a small side cavern in which a large metal spike was embedded into the bedrock and where the unfortunate were chained for days or weeks at a time. Recall that this was at an age where punishments included whippings, ears cropped, etc. The airflow in the mine is minimal so I cannot imagine what it must've smelled like having an average of about two dozen inmates at a time, with a reported maximum of 50 prisoners. Lighting was always kept low via scant candles, according to the tour guide, due to fear of consuming too much oxygen.

According to the tour, John Viets, the first prison warden (and owner of the Inn across the street) was paid 5 shillings per day per prisoner by the State for room and board of the prisoners during the revolutionary war. That seemed like a lot to me, so I investigated it more deeply. Using one of the many inflation calculators available online I started with 5 shillings in 1775 and then converted the resultant British pounds to US dollars. I came out with about $85/day in today's dollars more or less. Further, according to the *Federal Register* the cost to house prisoners in the US on average in 2015 was about $87/day.[3] So, I guess 5 shillings was on par.

Despite the state's intention of creating an "escape-proof underground prison" the prison wasn't very secure as the first prisoner, John Hinson, proved. He was imprisoned in late December 1773 and reportedly escaped less than 3 weeks later. According to the tour prison escapes were common, but then again so were re-captures. One prisoner, an itinerant burglar named Richard Steele who had already been twice cropped and branded, reportedly had escaped from many Connecticut's jails and after being sentenced to New-Gate asked the court that he be put to death rather than incarcerated in the mine. New-Gate's infamous reputation was well known among criminals of the day and some have suggested that the ill treatment of British soldiers during the revolutionary war was a rationale for the serve conditions American soldiers received on the British prison barges of the War of 1812, though these barges have been documented as cruel.[4] Remarkably, some sources suggest that offering more humane punishment was another motivation for using the mine as a prison.[5] Surely living in the mine and being put to work was better than being whipped, having an ear cropped, or being branded? I am not so sure.

In his mid-19th biography former inmate William Stuart, a counterfeiter, noted that the prison floor was covered in "5 inches of stinking filth" topped with "armies of fleas, lice, and bedbugs." A tour guide in the mine noted that prisoners slept on piles of hay, and later crude wooden cots (which at one point were used by industrious inmates to stack up as a make-shift ladder which was used in an escape.)

According to the tour the mine had become unprofitable by 1773 and so ended its operation. This apparently coincided with the state general assembly's views to:

1. Subsidize the cost of prisoners' internment (*"...to make prisoners labor pay the cost of incarceration rather than the government."*)

2. Offer more humane treatment of criminals (*"...provide a substitute for the infamous punishments in divers cases now appointed."*)

Inmates were brought to the surface each day to work (except on Sundays when they could attend church services in the guardhouse). Grinding grain via a large treadmill being a common task, as well as production of items, such as nails and other similar items that would be associated with a cooper's shop, reportedly even shoes were produced at some later point.

The guardhouse is an important part of the tour as it holds much of the history that is presented via wall-mounted poster-boards.

Numismatic Relevance

I sought to find a connection to our hobby in the tour but did not discover much, if anything, new. Perhaps that is appropriate since Higley's operation was located elsewhere. However, it made me think.

For example, on the tour it was noted on a panel that Higley's copper was shipped overseas "because smelting copper was illegal in the colonies." Though history tells us that Samuel Higley perished at sea with a load of his copper I had not realized that it was illegal to smelt copper at the time. I had presumed Higley shipped his ore overseas merely because it was the most expedient and efficient way to turn a profit or maybe his supply exceeded local demand.

My first thought was 'Well, ok, but that cannot be the only reason he shipped the copper to England, after all wasn't minting your own coins discouraged as well?'. But then I wondered, 'Do we really know if Higley created the necessary infrastructure to fully take his mined ore all the way to finished coin? Perhaps he never smelted his copper at all. Did he return from his trips to England with pre-made planchet stock?'.

It made me wonder if there had even been analytical testing of the Higley coppers versus the copper in either Higley's mine or the the prison mine. It should be possible to connect particular element signatures in mine samples versus finished coin samples to provide definitive data I would imagine. It certainly seems like an opportunity to confirm what perhaps has been accepted as fact for so long. But then I thought 'Would I really want to know that answer?'.

Summary

My visit to the old New-Gate prison helped me establish a physical, if peripheral, connection to a series of colonial coins that I have always viewed with a high degree of awe and interest. To me the Higley coppers are the coolest of colonials and my site visit made the coins even more 'real' and since it is not hard for me to become interested in just about anything from the colonial era my visit helped me learn about America's oldest prison.

I do think improvements can be made by the curators of the site. The State misses an opportunity when it does not adequately reference the fact that our country's first copper coins were minted nearby, by Higley, on its website[1], or on its official site timeline posted in the guardhouse. The only reference to this important fact lies "in the fine print."

In the guard-house there is a suggestion box and I indicated these missed opportunities to further prove the depth of the historical importance of the site. I also left my contact information if they wanted this information (no response.) At best Higley and his coppers are a footnote to the experience, and this is not correct in my view, however the trip was well worth it, and I will likely return.

Far from being annoyed that the site focuses so much on the prison I have to admit that if it were not for the decades of marketing the site as a tourist destination the site might not exist at all today for people to enjoy. So many of our historically important sites are at best a

nebulous location on a map, an overgrown patch of ground, or worse, buried under concrete. However, it is because of the prison that the site exists today.

If you are the type of person who enjoys the aforementioned "connection-to-place" – standing on the spot where history happened, then the visit will not disappoint. The site sits atop a hill and the views over the valley extended to the horizon on the day I was there (photo 6). At that moment I knew I was looking at a vista that had not materially changed since the time that Samuel Higley walked the area. I knew that I was sharing something in common with him – albeit his time was a few turns earlier on the wheel than mine.

Photo 6.

Endnotes

[1] State of Connecticut, "Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine," Department of Economic and Community Development, Offices of Culture and Tourism website, https://www.ct.gov/cct/cwp/view.asp?q=302258, last accessed 11/19/2018.

[2] Anonymous, "Viets' Tavern," Wikipedia website, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viets%27_Tavern, last accessed 11/19/2018.

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CONJECTURES ON FALSE ASSAYER MARKS ON COUNTERFEIT 2 REALES BUST PIECES

(Peter Jones)

At the November 2019 Baltimore show I purchased a counterfeit 2-reales piece from Clem Schettino. After I got home, I started wondering about the assayer marks.

Just to recap for those readers who may not be familiar with this field, John Kleeberg published a seminal article entitled Counterfeit 2-reales of the Bust Type in the 1998 Coinage of the Americas Conference. In the April 2011 Colonial Newsletter, he updated his list of obverse and reverse dies. These included struck not cast pieces, usually silver washed copper or brass, or German silver.

The Chinese made German silver in the 1700s, but the English started making it in the 1830s. German silver 2-reales counterfeits circulated in the US up until, and even during, the civil war as two bits (Spanish colonial coins were no longer legal tender in 1857). Counterfeiters presumably started making German silver 2-reales pieces from the 1830s, but copper pieces from the 1700s.

Kleeberg designates obverse dies using the last two numerals of the date, followed by a capital letter. He designates reverse dies using a capital letter for the Spanish colonial mint: **G**uatemala, **L**ima, **M**exico City, **N**uevo Reino (Santa Fe de Bogota), **P**otosi, **S**antiago de Chile, **NK** for unknown, **Z** for Zacatecas, then a number in the order that new dies are discovered.

The piece I bought was a Kleeberg 88-1shown below:

This piece therefore is the first 1788 obverse counterfeit identified, with the first Potosi reverse die identified. The coin shows absolutely no traces of silvering, which one might expect on a VF+ coin in recesses between letters. One wonders whether, long ago, a collector cleaned off all such traces of silvering.

The P1 legend from 9 to 11 o'clock reads: Potosi monogram. Ligated HP. A.X. It should read: Potosi monogram. 2 R. then two genuine assayer marks.

The following table shows the mintmarks, assayer initials and denominations of the 11 known Kleeberg P reverses:

	Mintmark	Assayer initials	Denomination
P1	P monogram	Ligated HP.A.X.	None
P2	P monogram	JR	2R
P3	I cannot make out	PJ (genuine assayers)	2R
P4	P (Kleeberg says for Popayan)	HJ	2R
P5	none	MPJGP	none
P6	P monogram	FF	2R
P7	P monogram	JR	2R
P8	P monogram	PP (genuine assayers)	2R
P9	P monogram	FJ	2R
P10	P monogram	JR	2R
P11	P monogram	RR	2R

All reverses have a 2R at 9 to 12 o'clock, except P1 and P5. P1 has a ligated HP, followed by assayers A and X (who did not exist). It is possible the forger had a genuine coin which was damaged at 2R, and the forger copied what looked like a ligated HP. P5 has only MPJGP with no mintmark or denomination.

For bust 2-reales pieces the only genuine assayer marks are PR, PP, PJ, J, and JL. Interestingly, of all known P counterfeit reverses, only two have the correct assayer marks: PJ on the P3, and PP on the P8.

All P reverses except P3 and P5 have the Potosi monogram, which would not be a standard engraver punch. I got to thinking, why go to all the trouble of engraving a forgery, including even the Potosi monogram, then put in the wrong assayer marks when presumably the forger had the real coin they were copying right in front of them?

Think of the omega counterfeit Saint-Gaudens double eagle. Forgers love to sign their pieces. Could the fake assayer marks be the forger's initials? Could JR be the initials of the same forger who engraved P2, P7, and P9? Would die linkage studies help further? Could the MP JGP be a father and son, or a two brother engraver pair with the same last name?

The ANS have 95 counterfeit 2-reales, but only 4 counterfeit cross pistareens. Why are counterfeit 2-reales pieces more common than counterfeit pistareens? The workhorse coin for the common man in the North in colonial America was the counterfeit halfpenny. The workhorse coin in the South was the pistareen. If you were counterfeiting similar size pieces (pistareen or 2-reales both around 27mm), the 2-reales was worth 25% more than a pistareen at the time. Also pistareens were frequently cut, and counterfeit pistareens would have exposed the underlying copper.

WOOD'S HIBERNIA MINI-CACHE RECENTLY UNEARTHED IN MASSACHUSETTS

(Mark R. Vitunic)

The discovery of a single Wood's Hibernia copper while metal detecting would be considered a good find but not particularly newsworthy as this is among the most common of all Red Book "colonials." Finding a second one on the same day 30 feet away is a notable coincidence. But then finding two more at the same location the next day is quite remarkable. This good fortune happened to a colleague of mine in October 2019 in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, near the site of a former 18th century cider mill. All four coins are halfpence, two of them dated 1723, and were found at depths of 4 to 8 inches. In the case of the third and fourth coins, curiously they were found stuck together with both obverses facing outward, perfectly aligned like a two-headed coin of twice the thickness. The seam is rather corroded such that they do not appear to be easily separable by any conventional non-destructive means.

In Syd Martin's 2007 book on Wood's Hibernias, he showed a map detailing the locations of 170 unearthed specimens which had been documented. Dispersal was wide along the Eastern seaboard, implying broad circulation.

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WHO ENGRAVED THIS VIRGINIA HALFPENNY?

(Roger A. Moore MD and Larry Gaye)

A new C4 book, *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*,[1] contains a chapter on "Oddities and Counter-stamped Virginians." The coin shown as Figure 8-3 in that chapter is shown below. It is a Virginia halfpenny Variety 10-W, owned by Larry Gaye. It is distinctive in having the following crude, hand-made engraving on the obverse:

ThoS. HugheS 1785

The origin of the engraving was unknown to the book's authors at the time it was published. However, after reading the book, Gary Trudgen, a past editor of *The Colonial Newsletter*, contacted the author, indicating that he may have discovered the engraver. He referred to a diary written by a British soldier during the American Revolutionary War that was transcribed and published by E. A. Benians in 1947. The possible relationship of the engraving and the diary is immediately evident on reading the title of the diary – *A Journal by Thos: Hughes (1778-1789.)*[2] The diary turned out to be a fascinating treasure trove of first-hand historic descriptive information of the everyday life from the perspective of a British soldier who was captured early in the War of Independence and held as a prisoner by the "rebels."

Excerpts from Thomas Hughes' Diary:

Before discussing the possible relationship of the engraved halfpenny to this soldier, some of his observations with a bent toward monetary issues will be explored, based on sequential entries in the diary. First, a short synopsis of the background that led up to the diary entries: Thomas Hughes was born in 1758 into an English family of four boys with a father who served the British Crown as a Major in the military. All of the boys followed their father's example by enlisting in the military when they became of age. Thomas entered the military in 1774 at the age of 15. In April 1776 he was sent to Canada with his regiment to help in the fight against the American rebels. He had no doubt that the American rabble would be rapidly brought under control and the instigators would be hanged. While stationed in Canada under the British command of General Burgoyne, Thomas was part of the military operation that

captured Fort Ticonderoga on July 6, 1777. However, by September 18 1777, Fort Ticonderoga was retaken by an American rebel force of 600 men commanded by Col. Brown. Ensign Hughes became a prisoner and was transported to Boston.

Much to the amazement of this author's preconceived notions of what it would be like being a prisoner of war during the American Revolution, officers were given "parole" and allowed the freedom to seek their own lodging, food and entertainment, within distance constraints outlined in the "parole" document. Breaking the parole rules however, would land the parolee in the gaol. Money to pay for the food and lodging came from the soldiers continuing to be paid by the British commanders, who received money from Britain for distribution. As might be expected money did not always arrive on time and the possibility of starvation and debtor's prison always hung over Thomas' head, when his funds ran out.

Another major problem was boredom which Thomas stated was "capable to make an Englishman hang himself." He was moved from one place to another including multiple spots in Canada, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Many of the lower grade soldiers were marched 600 miles down to Virginia. Interestingly there was a lot of movement of soldiers both on the rebel and British sides, and Thomas was able to talk to all these soldiers as they came and went.

After many illnesses, adventures and observations, Thomas was on June 14, 1781 allowed to return to England as part of a prisoner exchange. In January 1784 he learned that the War had ended, while he was studying the French language in Boulogne, France. However, since his military payments were about to cease unless he rejoined his regiment, he returned to Quebec, Canada in September 1784. Unlike the United States, Canada still recognized an allegiance to Britain and allowed the British soldiers to remain in its borders. He died of tuberculosis on January 1790 at the age of 31.

Some of Thomas Hughes' specific observations by date entered into his diary were:

October 22, 1777 - "Procur'd quarters in a home, in which I have agreed to pay two silver dollars pr week for board &c &c. The family are very civil – it consists of Father (who is almost deaf), Mother (a talkative old woman), and two daughters, who are of the order of old maids, confounded ugly, with beards an inch long."

December 10, 1777 – Our keeper is a civil old fellow, and has given us the best room in his own house – so we are not in the least confin'd. We have agreed with him to mess us, at the rate of 3 paper (Author's note: paper = Continental currency) or one silver dollar pr day – extravagant enough! but what is to be done!"

December 15, 1777 – Plenty of good company – plenty of good eating and drinking – but devilish shy of cash; if we don't procure money soon, we shall be oblig'd to remain here for debt."

January 1, 1778 – "A very pretty prospect for the opening of a New Year. In gaol, no money, few clothes, and indebted to a considerable amount to the gaoler (the worst man in the world)"

January 5, 1778 – "Receiv'd money, paid the jailor, who is in a good humour again – and wrote the Council, to get out of his clutches."

August 9, 1778 – Mr. Gardner, a Tory (Author's Note: British sympathizer) housing with Thomas, discussing why the war was not already won by the British. Thomas entered into his diary, "...he seems to think (the war) might have been finish'd some time ago, if the commanders in chief had pusht it with vigor. However he is still positive it must end in our favour, even if we only act on the defensive, as the depreciation of their paper currency must ruin them – we get now 4 paper dollars for one hard or silver one."

October 30, 1778 – "Heard today that the Convention army (Author's note: British prisoners) are to be removed to Virginia. The Yankees pretend they cannot subsist them in New England – to which reason they give them a march of 600 mile which will take them most of the winter."

January 7, 1778 – Having been moved to Elizabethtown, New Jersey, Thomas was confronted by three men. "Three men, who call'd themselves Justices, came to our tavern and ordered us to appear before them. On our compliance they made us produce our paper money which did not exceed 150 dollars; on inspection they pronounc'd it counterfeit – took it away – and would not let us have the satisfaction of seeing it destroyed, though we desired it.

October 24, 1779 – Following a number of rebellions of American troops, against their commanders, Thomas noted a change in the attitude by many Americans with which that he spoke. "The Americans are grown hearty tired of this war – even those who a few months ago hated the name of an Englishman now openly court our friendship and tell us they wish a reconciliation could take place. ... This turn of affairs is not owing to any latent friendship for Great Britain – for the rebels in general have not the least spark of gratitude; but it arises entirely from the mismanagement of their rulers, the disaffection of their troops, the depreciation of their paper currency and their immense taxes."

October 30, 1779 – The want of cash obliges us to borrow paper money to be paid in solid coin – we are allow'd 25 paper dollars for one silver but had we ready specie we could go to 50."

January 26, 1780 – In regard to a prominent person's funeral Thomas observed, "A principle inhabitant dying, was buried this even, at which I cannot help observing a custom of this country – that the body is always carried by the chief people of the town and the gentlemen look on it as the greatest mark of respect to be appointed a bearer. As the person buried was very corpulent they paid pretty dearly for their honour."

September 18, 1780 – "Remarkable for nothing but the anniversary of my captivity – having been three years a prisoner."

May 10, 1781 – "Great riots have lately happened in Philadelphia about paper money, which it is said is entirely out of circulation – as no person will take it. 1000 paper dollars are given for one silver,"

Evidence that the Engraver of the Virginia Halfpenny was Probably Thomas Hughes, British Military

THE NAME – The full title of Thomas Hughes' diary is, *A Journal by Thos: Hughes For his Amusement, & Designed only for his Perusal by the time he attains the Age of 50 if he lives that long*. The abbreviated "Thomas" as "Thos" was present both in the title of the diary, as well as in the engraving. Though this does not serve as definitive evidence that both names refer to the same person, it does significantly point to that possibility. Of course the assumption, which may be wrong, is the person who did the engraving was the person whose name is on the coin.

THE DATE – Hughes was able to leave America in a prisoner exchange in 1781 but returned to his regiment in Quebec in 1784. Therefore, he was present in North America in 1785 which was the date engraved on the coin. One might think that a more appropriate date would be 1784, which was the end of the War; but from Mr. Hughes diary, we see his interests and viewpoints were rooted on more personal issues. The loss of the War would not be expected to be celebrated with an engraving, so we need to look at other possible reasons for celebrating the 1785 date. We know that Thomas' youngest brother also served in the British army during the War of Independence, being wounded in 1781, and finally leaving Canada in 1785. Could this have been the reason for the engraving – a present to John who was leaving Canada, as a reminder of Thomas continuing to serve there? As a man of 26, could this have been a gift to some young lady as a remembrance of him? No major reasons for having the 1785 date is apparent from the diary entries. In addition, the assumption is that the coin was engraved in 1785 which could be wrong. The coin might have been engraved long before with the expectation of something that would happen in 1785.

BOREDOM – Though Thomas was actively employed by the military in Canada during the 1785 date, earlier while he was a prisoner he complained bitterly about his boredom.

February 6, 1780 – *Of all the situations in life, that of having no pursuit is the worst. The mind having nothing to occupy its attention falls into lethargy which makes it grow tir'd and displeas'd with everything about it. This is my case; my time hangs heavy and I scarcely know how to spin out the day.*

Idle hands could have been the reason for the coin having been engraved. Long frigid Canadian winters, even while an employed soldier, would drive the soldiers indoors resulting in a lot of time on their hands. Was the engraving simply due to boredom?

THE VIRGINIA HALFPENNY – The host coin of the engraving was a 1773 Virginia halfpenny, which was not released into circulation in Williamsburg, Virginia, until 1775 – fifty days before Lexington and Concord, which signaled the start of the War of Independence. Thomas Hughes never traveled to Virginia, so how was he able to obtain a Virginia halfpenny? It is known that as early as October 1778, large numbers of British prisoners were sent from Canada and the Northeast States to Virginia. In addition the diary made it very evident that British soldiers were constantly being moved up and down the coast. Therefore, there was ample opportunity for Virginia halfpence to migrate up the coast to Canada, especially after the War had ended. There was also a lack of hard currency, and a severe depreciation of the American paper currency. (In December 1777, one silver dollar equaled 3 paper dollars, by August 1778, 4 paper dollars equaled one silver dollar, by October 1778, it was 25-50 paper

dollars for one silver dollar, and by May 1781, some 1000 paper dollars equaled one silver dollar) Therefore, any hard currency was welcomed and it would not be surprising that Mr. Hughes came into contact with Virginia halfpence carried from Virginia by released or transferred British prisoners.

Conclusions:

The origins of the Virginia halfpenny engraved with "Thos Hughes 1785" may have been found. A military officer who served in the British army and was captured as a prisoner of the American army in 1777 wrote a diary concerning his daily life as a prisoner and about his later life once he was exchanged in a prisoner-of-war swap. A number of elements both from the diary as well as the circumstances that existed during the era when the engraving was thought to have occurred, would seem to support this hypothesis. Though none of the evidence is conclusive, the indirect evidence certainly points to Thomas Hughes, ensign in the British army as the engraver of the Virginia halfpenny.

Though the diary did not provide the desired evidence as to the identity of the engraver, the authors were impressed with much of the other contents of the diary which painted a picture of the War of Independence from the viewpoint of a British soldier. The diary is fascinating for those interested in the American monetary system during the War with first hand documentation of the huge depreciation in American currency, that led to riots by the American citizens and large defections of soldiers from the American (rebel) military that could have derailed the entire War of Independence for the Americans..

References:

1) Moore, R. A., *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*, C4 Publications, 2019, p. 273.

2) Benians, E. A. (editor), *A Journal by Thos: Hughes (1778-1789)*, University Press, Cambridge, 1947.

JOHN LAW COPPERS: METALLURGY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

(Martin L. Smith)

Figure 1. A member of the Court of King Louis XV *circa* 1720.
Copperplate engraving. Unknown artist.

The year was 1715. The famous "Sun King" Louis XIV had died. Louis XV became a boy king at age 5 in September of 1715. Philippe, Duke of Orleans, was appointed as guardian to the young king, so that unscrupulous people did not take advantage of his youth. One such unscrupulous individual was one John Law of Lauriston (1). John Law was the director of the French mints and the banking and monetary system during 1719 and 1720. During his tenure, John Law issued paper currency and a series of copper coins that are known today as "John Law Coppers". They feature a child head portrait of the Boy King Louis XV on the obverse, and the coat of arms of France on the reverse. In France, the coins are known as the *Buste Enfantin* coinage. John Law had controversial views about monetary systems. He thought he could benefit France's ailing economy at the time, and himself profit, by various monetary inflation schemes. The infamous "Mississippi bubble" can be read about elsewhere (2). But suffice to say that John Law and his monetary schemes were unpopular when the economies of Old France and New France came crashing down. He left France suddenly in December of 1720 as an alternative to being tarred-and-feathered (1).

The *Buste Enfantin* coins have been grouped into two groups by other authors (3,4). The Group 1 coins were from Paris (mintmark A), Metz (mintmark AA), Strasbourg (mintmark BB), and Reims (mintmark S). They were to be exported to New France or "Canada" under Royal Edict of May,1719 (3). The Group 1 coins are dated 1719 or 1720.

The Group 2 coins were notable in that the mints producing them differed from the mints producing the earlier, Group 1, coins. The issuing mints were Rouen (mintmark B), La Rochelle (H), and Bordeaux (mintmark K). They are dated 1722 or 1723. They were ordered to be sent to New France or "Canada" under Royal Edict of May 1722, registered June 6 (4). Yet a third group, struck at Perpignan (mintmark Q), might belong to the second group in terms of export from France. But they differ from the other mints as discussed herein.

In looking at old maps, it is clear that "Canada" in 1720 did not mean the "Canada" of today (Figure 2). Prior to the French and Indian War (ending in 1763) the Great Lakes region was French territory. It included portions of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and Western New York (Figure 2). The French ceded the Ohio Valley, including much of the Great Lakes region, to the British in 1763.

Figure 2. Map of North America by Robert de Vaugondy (1762.) The area east of the Appalachians is "Louisiana." The Great Lakes Region in orange is "Canada".

"John Law Coppers" are often described as "brassy" or "impure copper" (3,4). To look at this issue in more detail, I purchased a group of 33 "random" coins in low grades. Some of the coins were cleaned. Of the 33 coins, most were a salmon pink color indicating relatively pure copper. Only four of the coins were yellow in color indicating brass (a higher zinc content). The four yellow coins were: 1721-A (Paris half-sol), 1720-BB (Strasbourg half-sol), 1723-Q (Perpignan half-sol), and a 1723-Q (Perpignan mint sol). I then sent seven coins for XRF analysis by Express XRF Company, Bozeman, MT. The analysis is shown in Table 1. Before sending the coins for analysis, I summarized their colors (Figure 3). After the analysis, I summarized the zinc content by mint (Figure 3.)

Coin	Mint (mintmark)/Date	Metal composition (%)
1	Metz (AA) 1719	Copper 95, Nickel 3, Zinc 2
2	Strasbourg (BB) 1720	Copper 88, Nickel 7, Zinc 4
3	Rouen (B) 1722	Copper 91, Nickel 6, Zinc 3
4	Rochelle (H) 1722	Copper 92, Nickel 5, Zinc 3
5	Rochelle (H) 1723	Copper 92, Nickel 5, Zinc 3
6	Perpignan (Q) 1723	Copper 80, Zinc 12, Iridium 4, Nickel 4
7	Perpignan (Q) 1723	Copper 85, Zinc 11, Iridium 4

Table 1. Metallurgic analysis of a random group of John Law Coppers. Trace amounts of lead (<1%) were found in some samples.

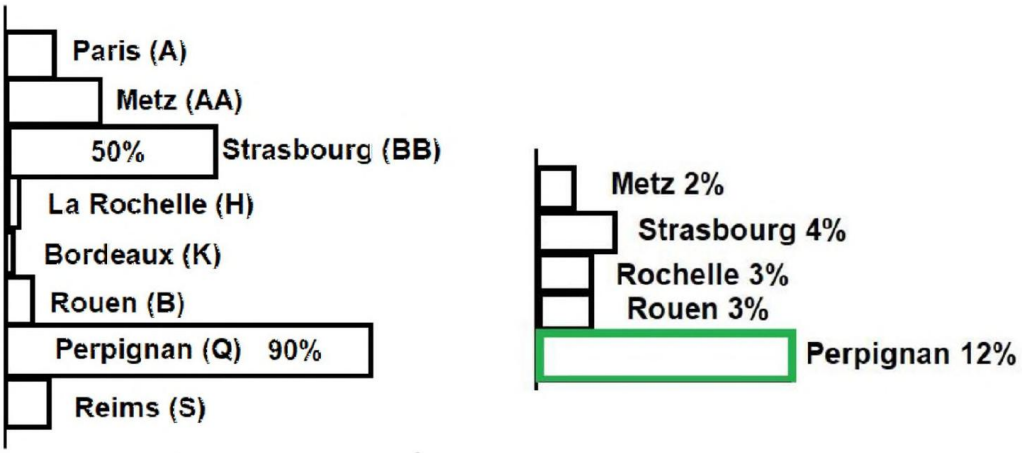

Figure 3. Left, relative numbers of coins that are visibly "yellow" (indicating high zinc content). Almost all Perpignan coins are yellow. Very few or no Bordeaux mint coins are yellow.
Right, relative zinc content that would make coins appear "yellow."

Figure 4. 1723-Q Perpignan mint sol (28 mm). Almost always in yellow brass (especially 1722 and 1723 dates).
The yellow color of this example is striking. Slabbed example (Smith.)

Figure 5. 1723-B Rouen mint half-sol. Almost always in red copper (with rare exceptions).
This coin measures 25.5 mm and weighs 6.45 grams.

The relative order of zinc content (brass appearance) is Perpignan > Group 1 coins > Group 2 coins. Note that I was not trying to separate Group 1 from Group 2 coins. To my knowledge, the copper source for all coins was Copper Mountain in Falun, Sweden (4,5). The Group 2 coins were struck on planchets that were ordered as ready-made blanks from Hamburg

(but the copper was still the Swedish copper). The Hamburg planchets appear to be almost always red copper (this study). But then why did Perpignan revert to a brassier composition? And if this was a problem in 1717, why wasn't it a problem in 1723? It has been speculated that the Perpignan mint, in 1722, began striking the Child Head coins on leftover planchets from the 1717 Perpignan coinage. Perhaps, in 1717, the veins of zinc in the copper ore were an insurmountable problem. But by 1719, or 1722, they had learned to avoid the veins of zinc at the time of smelting the ore. Or perhaps there was more than one mining site on Copper Mountain, some having less zinc. In any case, the order of yellow brass coins is Perpignan > Group 1 coins > Group 2 coins. This is not to say that "yellow brass" Group 2 coins do not exist (although I have never seen one from Bordeaux). Rather, brass Group 2 coins are very rare. As a collector, I sought them out even before I had knowledge of their rarity (6.)

The finding of Iridium in the Perpignan mint coins is a new finding (5). The nickel was also unexpected. It is not known if Iridium or nickel contribute to the color characteristics. If the 1717 Perpignan mint issues contain Iridium (not known), that might provide evidence that Perpignan did use the 1717 planchets in 1722 and 1723.

Finally, I have begun weighing and measuring coins. Weights and measures are shown in Tables 2 and 3. Interestingly, the Perpignan mint coins again stand out in the data. Perpignan mint half-sols are significantly under-diameter ($P < 0.05$). Perpignan mint sols are significantly under-weight ($P < 0.05$). More will be said about Perpignan mint coins in future studies.

Mint (mintmark)	Dates (17XX)	Sample size (n)	Diameter	Weight in grams
Paris (A)	20, 21	10	25.8 ± 0.14 mm	5.58 ± 0.25 g
Metz (AA)	19,20	7	25.0 ± 0.29 mm	5.39 ± 0.42 g
Strasbourg (BB)	19,20	8	25.8 ± 0.26 mm	5.60 ± 0.36 g
Reims (S)	20,21	16	25.7 ± 0.47 mm	5.53 ± 0.42 g
Rouen (B)	20,22,23	6	25.5 ± 0.33 mm	5.51 ± 0.22 g
Rochelle (H)	22,23	6	25.5 ± 0.58 mm	5.47 ± 0.81 g
Bordeaux (K)	22,23	7	25.7 ± 0.42 mm	5.49 ± 0.55 g
Perpignan (Q)	23,24	7	24.1 ± 0.13 mm*	5.68 ± 0.19 g

Table 2. Weights and measures of the half-sol (25 mm) coins.
Official diameter is 25 mm and official weight is 6.12 grams (7.)

Mint (mintmark)	Dates (17XX)	Sample size (n)	Diameter	Weight in grams
Paris (A)	19	9	28.9 ± 0.46 mm	11.6 ± 0.49 g
Metz (AA)	19,20	6	29.7 ± 1.85 mm	11.9 ± 1.03 g
Strasbourg (BB)	19	5	28.4 ± 0.65 mm	11.0 ± 0.36 g
Reims (S)	19,20	16	28.8 ± 0.40 mm	11.5 ± 0.42 g
Rouen (B)	19,20	4	29.5 ± 0.58 mm	11.2 ± 0.40 g
Perpignan (Q)	22,23	12	28.2 ± 0.32 mm	9.24 ± 0.37 g*

Table 3. Weights and measures of the sol (30 mm) coins.
Official diameter is 28-30 mm and official weight is 12.24 grams (7.)

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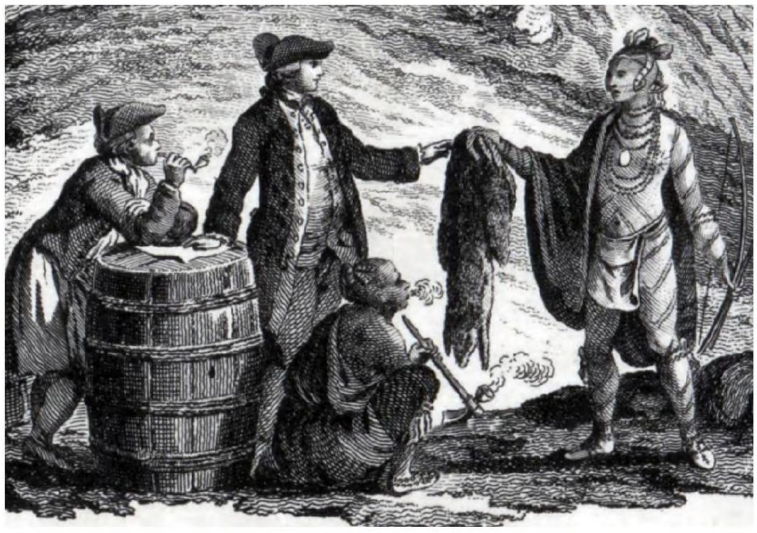


Frontier commerce as depicted in a 1777 map cartouche.

Faden, William, Engraver. A map of the inhabited part of Canada ... with the frontiers of New York and New England ... by Claude Joseph Sauthier / engraved by Wm. Faden. London: Published as the Act directs by Wm. Faden, Corner of St. Martin's Lane, Charing-Cross, Feby. 25. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/2004670239/>.

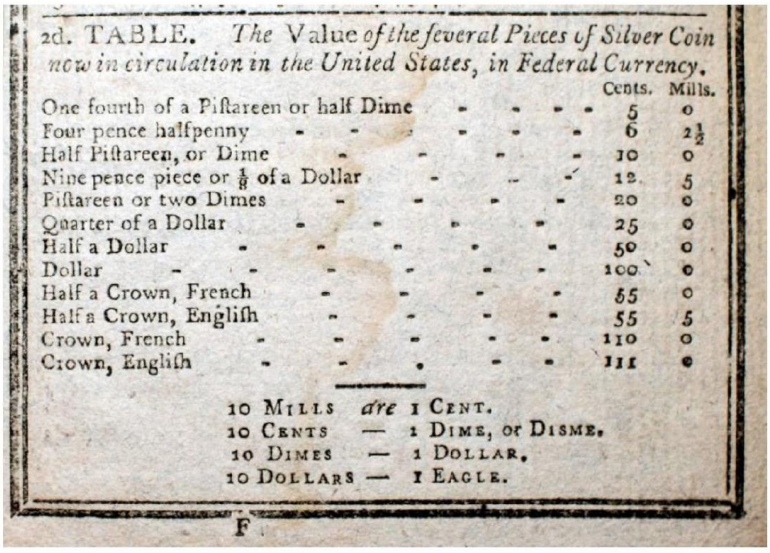
SPANISH SILVER CIRCULATING IN 18TH CENTURY AMERICA

(Leo Shane)

We have all seen references in books to the use of Spanish silver coins (including "cut" pieces) for everyday purchases in early America. Ground find reports also seem to confirm their widespread use. These plus halfpenny coppers and their counterfeits made up the vast majority of coins used for smaller purchases during the 18th century. In my studies of early American almanacks I have found an interesting chart which adds to the evidence of the use of these coins.

Figure 1 is a picture of the cover of Thomas' *Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode-Island, Newhampshire* [sic] & *Vermont Almanack* for the year 1797. This was written by Isaiah Thomas and printed in Worcester, MA in 1796. Almanacks were the second most popular document read in colonial and early America, second only to prints of the *Bible*. They contain information about tides, holidays, agriculture and other useful articles for merchants, farmers and common people.

THOMAS's
MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE-ISLAND, NEWHAMPSHIRE & VERMONT
ALMANACK,
With an EPHEMERIS, for the Year of our Lord
1797:
Being the First after BISSEXTILE, or LEAP-YEAR, and Twenty-first of the INDEPENDENCE of UNITED COLUMBIA.
From Creation, according to the Scriptures, 5759.
Containing, besides the MORE than usual Astronomical Calculations, a larger Quantity and greater Variety than are to be found in any other Almanack together
With the *President's Address*, and the *Fee Bill*.
Of turbid elements the sport,
From clear to cloudy toil, from hot to cold,
And dry to moist, with levart eating change,
Our dropping days are dwindled down to nought,
Their period loathed ere 'tis well begun.— THOMSON.
Printed at WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS,
for ISAIAH THOMAS.


2d. TABLE. *The Value of the several Pieces of Silver Coin now in circulation in the United States, in Federal Currency.*

	Cents.	Mills.
One fourth of a Piſtareen or half Dime	5	0
Four pence halfpenny	6	2½
Half Piſtareen, or Dime	10	0
Nine pence piece or ⅛ of a Dollar	12	5
Piſtareen or two Dimes	20	0
Quarter of a Dollar	25	0
Half a Dollar	50	0
Dollar	100	0
Half a Crown, French	55	0
Half a Crown, Engliſh	55	5
Crown, French	110	0
Crown, Engliſh	111	0

10 MILLS *are* 1 CENT.
10 CENTS — 1 DIME, or DISME.
10 DIMES — 1 DOLLAR.
10 DOLLARS — 1 EAGLE.

F

Figure 1 Figure 2

While some Almanacks contain charts of silver and gold coins used by merchants, I found a different type of chart in this one. Figure 2 is Chart from this Almanack titled "The Value of Several Pieces of Silver Coin now in circulation in the United States, in Federal Money."

Ignoring the English and French crowns and half-crowns for the purposes of this article, I was drawn to this chart because of the listing of Spanish coins. Specifically, coins such as "Four Pence Halfpenny" and "Nine Pence Piece" caught my eye. What are these coins? Also, physically how big are they and what images do they bear?

For the purpose of the following discussion I will be referencing the chart (Figure 2) and the photographs below. Going from the highest value Spanish coin to the lowest, we see the familiar "Pillar" type Spanish dollar, 8-*reales* (and later Bust type) at 100 cents. The half-dollar 4-*reales* coin is next at 50 cents. There is nothing out of the ordinary here.

Next on the list is the quarter dollar, 2-*reales* coin valued at 25 cents and minted at several mints in Spanish America. It is followed by the debased Spanish 2-*reales,* identified as "Pistareen or Two Dimes" coin, minted only in the Spanish mainland and valued at 20 cents. *Pistareens* were minted from the late 17th century into the 19th century. They had a silver content and weight approximately 20% less than the colonial-minted Spanish coins of Central and South America. They were not intended to circulate beyond the mainland but they obviously spread to the new world.

The next lowest valued coin on the chart is the "Nine Pence Piece or 1/8 of a Dollar." This is the 1-*real* Spanish coin. At 1/8th of a dollar, 6 shillings or 72 pence (Federal Standard established in 1790) to the dollar, it is easy to see that 1/8th of a dollar is 9 pence, hence the name. It is valued at 12 cents 5 mills or 1/8th of 100 Cents. This coin is followed by the "Half Pistareen or Dime." As discussed above, this is a debased 1-*real* coin intended for the Spanish Mainland. Its value is 10 cents.

The next coin that follows is the "Four Pence Halfpenny." This is the ½-*real* coin. With 4-1/2 pence representing 1/16 of a dollar (72 pence,) it is valued at 6 Cents and 2-1/2 mills. Finally, the lowest denominated coin on the chart is the "One Fourth of a Pistareen of Half Dime." As with the discussion of the *pistareen* and *half-pistareen*, this coin is a debased ½-*real* coin intended for the Spanish mainland only.

Below, I have reproduced the Spanish coins from the chart in the Almanack. I have added an additional column showing the coins they represent.

Table: The Value of several pieces of silver coin now in circulation in the United States, in Federal Currency.

	Cents	**Mills**	**Spanish Coin Represented**
One Fourth of a *Pistareen* or Half Dime	5	0	½-*Real* (Devalued)
Four Pence Halfpenny	6	2-1/2	½-*Real*
Half *Pistareen*, or Dime	10	0	1-*Real* (Devalued)
Nine Pence Piece or 1/8 of a Dollar	12	5	1-*Real*
Pistareen or Two Dimes	20	0	2-*Reales* (Devalued)
Quarter of a Dollar	25	0	2-*Reales*
Half of a Dollar	50	0	4-*Reales*
Dollar	100	0	8-*Reales*

Examples of each of these coins is shown below. Photographs of the coins are shown at (or near) actual size. It is interesting to see the same design carried throughout the various denominations for both the different series. American Colonial Coins feature the pillar designs on the obverse and the shield design on the reverse. It is distinguished from the devalued Spanish mainland pieces which feature a Jerusalem cross on the obverse and the shield on the reverse. Also note that the weights are roughly proportional, the Pistareen series being approximately 80% the weight of the American Colonial Series.

1768 8 *Reales*. 411.9 grains.

1755 4 Reales. 199.8 grains.

1760 2 *Reales*. 104.6 grains.

1721 *Pistareen*. 83.2 grains.

1739 1 *Real*. 52.0 grains.

1738 ½ *Pistareen*. 44.0 grains.

1756/5 ½ *Real*. 27.0 grains.
(See enlarged photo below.)

1752 ¼ Pistareen 22.7 grains.
(See enlarged photo below.)

Some interesting observations can be made from the above almanack coin chart:

- I have seen similar charts to this one in six other (seven total) Almanacks. All are printed in Connecticut or Massachusetts but purportedly cover all of New England. They are for the years 1797 to 1799. This implies that, during the late 18th century, these were the coins being used in the New England area. I suspect it is also true for many other colonies/parts of the United States.

- The title of the chart says "Silver coin now in circulation." Since this is five to seven years after the opening of the Federal mint, and no Federal coins are identified, it is easy to assume that Federal coins were not yet widely used.

- Both Central and South American minted Spanish coins and devalued mainland Spanish coins (re: *pistareen* series) are listed. This implies that both series freely circulated at the same time meaning that distinguishing between them was important since they carried different values.

This chart identifies another way to collect Colonial coins. It represents a set of the actual Silver coins used in early America.

Happy Hunting!

(2X Actual Size)
1756/5 ½ *Real*. 27.0 grains.

(2X Actual Size)
1752 ¼ *Pistareen* 22.7 grains.

Charleston, South Carolina, 1780

MAKE MONEY THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY: FAKE IT CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT COLONIAL COINS
PART THREE: THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE COPPERS

(Jeff Rock)

In the first part of this ongoing series we examined the reasons why counterfeits were being made in – or sent to – colonial America and the early United States. In the last installment we examined the intriguing Nova Constellatio copper series, which were struck in England and then sent to America – with some of the contemporary counterfeits of that series possibly made in North America. For this next installment we will examine the 1787-1788 state copper coinage of Massachusetts.

In many ways the Massachusetts coinage is the easiest series to figure out. It only comes with two dates (the New Jersey coppers have three, the Connecticut and Vermont coppers have four apiece). It features a single major design and legend style (compared to the complex changes of legend and design found in the Vermont coppers and the many distinctly different devices used in the Connecticut and New Jersey series). Indeed, the only easily noticeable variation in design comes from just two reverse dies (one without a period after the final letter and another with the arrows and olive branch transposed in the eagle's claws). The legitimate issues were struck at just a single mint, and the dies used by that mint were cut by just two engravers who are documented and well known – and those two engravers can be assigned to all of the known dies used by the official mint (unheard of for the other coinages, even with the recent discovery of some of the Connecticut Mint ledgers). The genuine dies from the Massachusetts Mint never fell into the hands of Machin's Mills or other coiners, so there is a complete absence of illogical muling (as can be found in the Connecticut, Vermont and Machin's Mills coppers). The Massachusetts coppers do not come struck over the coins of any other state or country (the only one of the four state coinages to not do so; Phil Mossman's wonderful *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation* lists 11 varieties of Vermont, 14 varieties of Connecticut and 16 varieties of New Jersey coppers that come overstruck on other coins, some over multiple types of host coins). There are 51 die varieties of Massachusetts coppers known today, with only the Vermont coinage having fewer, while the Connecticut coppers have nearly seven times as many varieties known.

But in other ways, the Massachusetts coinage is more complicated than it first appears. It is the only state coinage to come in two different denominations, a Half Cent and Cent – and, indeed, was the first copper coinage to put those denominations on the coins themselves (even the British halfpenny, which was the bedrock of the colonial American economy, did not have a stated denomination on the actual coin). A farthing denomination was also to be struck, and the Mint was expected to also coin silver and gold, but this did not come to pass. This is the only state coinage series where an off-metal die trial of a full coin is known to exist (a white metal strike of a 1787 Half Cent; a trial of the reverse of a New Jersey copper on a silver strip is also known, but that is just one side of a coin). It is, by far, the easiest of the state coinages to find in Uncirculated grades, suggesting that many were saved in the state, possibly due to the design being so different from anything else in circulation; this is perhaps not surprising as Massachusetts (and Boston in particular) had been proud of its accomplishments ever since the colony was formed, hanging on to more of its early documents than any of the other colonies.

Of the 51 known varieties, 47 of them were struck at the Massachusetts Mint, which leaves just four as contemporary counterfeits. Of the original varieties, there are records of Joseph Callender making 39 dies (and repairing 3 that he had made that must have broken or been damaged during striking). Callender made all the 1787-dated dies (both half cent and cent), and some of the 1788-dated cents. The rest of the dies used by the mint were made by Jacob Perkins, at a much lower cost per die – this included both 1788 half cent varieties and many of the cents of that year. Perkins, of course, went on to greater numismatic fame in making the Washington Funeral medals, as well as with inventions in the printing of paper money. The Callender dies are easily discerned by having the letter "S" open at the top and bottom, while the punch for that letter used by Perkins was closed in those areas, making the "S" look more like the number "8." Other differences in letter punches are more subtle but do exist.

Figure 1: The mark of two different engravers. At left is the open S punch used by Joseph Callender on the Massachusetts copper dies he produced. At right is the closed S punch used by Jacob Perkins for his dies.

The 47 varieties of legitimate Massachusetts coppers run the gamut from common to extremely rare, with two varieties currently unique, though other examples of either or both varieties may come to light over time, especially in a series that many find difficult to attribute and many non-colonial dealers still sell just as type coins.[1]

The four varieties of counterfeits are, of course, what concern us in this article. What is immediately notable about these counterfeits is that they are all extremely rare. Every one of the other states that issued coppers also had counterfeits made and circulated, but those counterfeits are sometimes among the most common varieties known (for instance, the Horned Bust Connecticut, the Britannia variety of Vermont and the Camel Head New Jersey copper). We know that the real Massachusetts coppers were well received within the state, and there are accounts of them circulating for a couple decades after they were made, so one would expect counterfeiters to have taken advantage of the situation and made more of them, as was the case with all the other state coinages.

One reason that the Massachusetts coppers were well received is that they were authorized at a heavier weight than any of the other state coinage issues – 157 ½ grains for the cent, besting the 150 grain weight of the New Jersey copper and the 144 grains of the Connecticut copper, and dwarfing the 111 grain weight the Vermont coppers were finally issued at. Thus, it would seem that counterfeiting a Massachusetts cent would be much more

[1] An excellent overview of estimating rarity ratings and possible numbers struck for each legitimate variety can be found in Mike Packard, "Auction Appearances of Massachusetts Coppers," *The Colonial Newsletter,* August 1989 (Issue 89), page 1100. Note though that two additional varieties – the two currently unique – were found after this article was written.

lucrative than counterfeiting a Vermont copper if they could be put out at a much lighter weight – yet there are significantly more counterfeit Vermont coppers than there are of Massachusetts. As we will see later in this article it seems that counterfeiters were not dramatically reducing the weight of their Massachusetts output, something radically different from the other state coinage issues where the counterfeits often weigh between 50-65% of their genuine counterparts.

There are no known contemporary counterfeits of the half cent, even though many genuine examples of that denomination are known today in well-worn condition, attesting to use in commerce. The half cent didn't have huge purchasing power at the time – perhaps equivalent to 15 cents in today's money. But in 1787 an agricultural laborer would have only taken home roughly 40 cents for a day's labor (which, of course, would be sun up to sun down), so the half cent did have some value in the 1780s. One would think it would be easier to pass a counterfeit of a smaller coin, as the difference in weight wouldn't have been as noticeable as with a larger coin – and it would be more difficult in an era before reading glasses were available to any but the rich to make out design differences between a genuine and counterfeit of a smaller coin.

There are nearly twice as many genuine 1788 Massachusetts cent varieties as there are of 1787, but the breakdown of the counterfeit dates differs dramatically – there are three dated 1787 and just a single counterfeit dated 1788, a ratio in the opposite direction of the official coinage.

What all this tells us isn't exactly clear. Did the distinct design style make it more difficult to counterfeit this coinage, or to pass once made? Did the official issues stay mostly in Massachusetts, making it less attractive for counterfeiters in other states to produce and transport there? Were Massachusetts merchants and citizens more adept at weighing the copper coins they received in change and rejecting anything light weight? Did the half cent denomination not circulate widely enough to make it worth counterfeiting, or was its diminutive size difficult to make dies or planchets for? Did the genuine 1787 issues circulate more and were thus seen more often by counterfeiters, or were the 1788-dated issues struck late enough that the Coppers Panic removed any incentive for counterfeiters to make more of that date? Or were the counterfeiters so busy making lighter weight pieces for the other state coinage issues that they just didn't spare much thought to making more for Massachusetts?

As is often the case with colonial American coinage, there aren't any easy or clear answers. But the Massachusetts counterfeits do force us to ask questions about why they are different than those of the other states.

So, let's take a look at the four counterfeit varieties of Massachusetts cents, and see what they might be able to tell us.

1787 Massachusetts Cent, Ryder 1-B
The "Aged Face"

Figure 2: 1787 Massachusetts Cent, Contemporary Counterfeit, Ryder 1-B.
(Photo Courtesy of Heritage Auctions, HA.com.)

It's a shame that we need to start this article off with this variety. In a perfect world this would be the last one discussed as it is the most interesting of the four, as well as the one that breaks the pattern seen with the other contemporary counterfeits – and it seems akin to starting off a mystery novel by telling you who the murderer was!

The illustrated example is one of the three (!) that were sequestered in the John Ford collection, and despite the clip is one of the overall nicest examples of the variety known. This is one of the more available of the Massachusetts counterfeits – though "common" is not the word to be used, since there are thought to be just under a dozen examples extant today.[2] The coin illustrated is on a much broader planchet than the variety is usually found, which allows for most of the legend to be visible, and thus useful for illustration – this is far from typical for the variety, as is its condition (collectors be warned, the illustrations used here are the finest this author was able to locate and one should not assume that they can easily be found in such higher grades!).

This variety was described by Crosby as being "among the most peculiar coins of this state. The Indian has an aged face, a prominent chin, and his body is slightly bowed" – and the "Aged Face" moniker has remained with this variety ever since.

In Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia* he stated that the variety weighed 146 to 149 grains, a ridiculously narrow margin, and one that is incorrect. There is a single coin known that weighs 149.8 grains, but the other four coins that have weights available range from 112.7 to 138.2 grains; the clipped one illustrated here weighs 136.8 grains, meaning that on a full

[2] Michael Packard graciously read a draft of this article, correcting a few mistakes and updating his previously published notes. For the Ryder 1-B he shows 11 examples known to him today but, as is the case with all die varieties, there are likely others that will be found unattributed in collections or dug out of the ground.

planchet it would have probably been at the 140 grain mark. The smaller diameter planchets on most of the other known examples of this variety surely account for their lighter weights.[3]

What is interesting about this variety is that more are known used as undertypes than as original struck coins! Even more interesting is the fact that ALL of this variety that were overstruck were done so by just a single pair of dies, the 1788 Connecticut copper variety Miller 16.3-N. This counterfeit Massachusetts cent is the only undertype found on this particular Connecticut copper variety, and this Connecticut variety is the only one in the entire state coinage series to have a Massachusetts cent as an undertype. This is especially striking when one considers a coin like the 1787 Camel Head New Jersey Copper (Maris 56-n) which comes overstruck on just about everything that was in circulation at the time – Connecticuts, Vermonts, Machin's Mills, British and Irish halfpence, etc. – yet none are known struck over a Massachusetts cent.[4]

The 1787 Ryder 1-B cent was struck at Machin's Mills, with punch linkage for the date numerals especially strong (this will be discussed in more detail in the next variety described since that one is an even clearer match; see Figure 6 below for illustration). Unusual for the coins of that mint, though, neither the obverse or reverse dies are paired with any others – including the other counterfeit Massachusetts copper coins struck at Machin's Mills (indeed, only one of the counterfeit dies was paired with more than one other die).

But, like a good mystery, there may be more here than first meets the eye! There are several examples of the Miller 16.3-N Connecticut copper variety that were used as host coins in the New Jersey copper series, overstruck by dies for 1787 varieties Maris 56-n and Maris 73-aa. It is certainly possible that one of these 16.3-N varieties was itself struck over a counterfeit Massachusetts copper – but a double overstrike might have sufficiently flattened out details of the original host coin as to make them virtually impossible to see. But imagine how cool it would be if such evidence could be found – one single piece of copper bearing traces of the coinage of three different states, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey!

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[3] It should be noted that we have located weights for about half of the known specimens for each counterfeit variety – it is expected that the general range of weights for the other half will be similar to what is presented here, though of course some could be significantly higher or lower than the ranges herein.

[4] Phil Mossman's *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation,* The American Numismatic Society, 1992 is an amazingly useful book. Appendix 2 contains an extensive listing of all the known overstruck coppers he was aware of at the time (though a few more have since been found). In his listing of the Maris 56-n there are nearly 50 different host coins that can be identified by date and/or individual die variety!

Figure 3: At top, 1788 Connecticut Copper, Miller 16.3-N overstruck on a 1787 Massachusetts Cent, Ryder 1-B. Below, the same coin, oriented to show the position of the Massachusetts undertype, which is particularly strong at the eagle's left wing. (Photo courtesy of Stack's Bowers.)

All the varieties discussed above are contemporary counterfeit issues – and most were likely struck at the same place, the infamous Machin's Mills (and despite their dates the Connecticut and New Jersey coppers were probably all struck in 1789). The Massachusetts cent has direct punch linkage to known Machin's Mills products. The Miller 16.3-N Connecticut copper is a counterfeit (as, technically, are all of the 1788-dated issues), and is considered one of the issues struck at Machin's Mills, using dies and hubs sold to them by Abel Buell's son Benjamin, after the collapse of the official Connecticut Mint.[5] The New Jersey Maris 73-aa is a counterfeit as well, part of a group of "Plaited Mane" varieties (Maris obverses 70 to 73), which are also likely to have been struck at Machin's Mills[6] – a theory given some support by the fact that nearly all of this Plaited Mane group come overstruck on other coins,

[5] For more on this see Christopher McDowell, *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages,* The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015, especially chapter 36.

[6] For more on this series see Roger Siboni, John Howes and Buell Ish, *New Jersey State Coppers,* The American Numismatic Society, 2013.

and that a high percentage of those coins are pieces that were struck at the Machin's Mills facility (including the iconic halfpence that were only struck there). Only the Maris 56-n (and 57 and 58-n) does not have a certain mint known but given the preponderance of overstrikes the Machin's facility must at least be a strong contender for that honor as well.

These overstrikes have caused some concern in the past – it didn't make sense for a counterfeiter use the very coins he had produced as planchets for something else. But there is a reason. After the Coppers Panic of 1789 nearly all of those lightweight counterfeits would have been impossible to get into circulation – except for the New Jersey coppers, which held their value longer since that state continued accepting them in payment. Faced with that, Machin's did the only thing he could – he took coins he had on had which had little or no chance of getting into commerce and turned them into coins that had much better odds of being accepted. Though one wonders if the New Jersey authorities would have taken the coin illustrated in Figure 4 below, which is far more Connecticut than New Jersey.

While it would be easy to get sidetracked into the intricacies of Connecticut and New Jersey copper counterfeits, it is best to return to the task at hand, the Massachusetts counterfeit that is, figuratively and literally, at the bottom of this mess.

As mentioned earlier, the examples of the 1787 Ryder 1-B cent that exist today in non-overstruck form range from 112.7 to 149.8 grains, with most veering closer to the 140 grain mark than to 120; the five examples with recorded weights average 132.2 grains; taking out the single lightweight example in this data set, the other four average 137.1 grains.

But the examples of this variety that were used as host coins for the Connecticut variety paint a different picture. Of the eight weights recorded the lightest is 107.8 grains, and the heaviest is just 122.7 grains. The average weight of this group is just 116.8 grains, or more than 20 grains lighter than the pieces that exist not overstruck – and that leads to some interesting speculation (though it needs to be emphasized that this is only speculation and not proven fact).

Figure 4: A 1787 New Jersey copper, Maris 73-aa barely overstruck on a 1788 Connecticut, Miller 16.3-N. When offered in the 2019 C4 auction the cataloguer aptly noted that this was "an overstrike so brazen that calling this coin a New Jersey copper seems tantamount to fibbing." Photo oriented to show the Connecticut copper variety. The 2019 C4 auction, where this example appeared, had an extraordinary run of Maris 73-aa's overstruck on other coins. (Photo courtesy of Stack's Bowers.)

Since the Massachusetts cent was used as an undertype we can presume it was struck earlier than the Connecticut copper. The dies and hubs for the Connecticuts likely did not reach Machin's Mills until 1789, which means the Massachusetts was probably struck earlier, in late 1787 or, more likely, 1788. Because this variety differs dramatically in terms of weight than the three counterfeit Massachusetts cent varieties to follow it is possible that this was the first of them that Machin struck. Their light weight may have caused them to be rejected in that state – and since there were no other light counterfeits of this type in circulation in Massachusetts, they would have been quite easy to differentiate from genuine coins. This could have led Machin to do a sort of triage – letting the heavier-weight 1-B's fend for themselves in circulation (each of the 11 currently known do show wear, with most in the Fine-VF range, so we know those examples did circulate). But the lighter-weight pieces, which would have been rejected in commerce, were instead used as planchets for the single variety of copper from Connecticut – a state that had numerous counterfeits and light weight pieces of genuine varieties in circulation, and thus a locale that was more likely to accept this sort of amalgamation in trade.

If the above is true it would seem that the overstriking had to occur within a relatively short period of time: the first few months of 1789 when Machin's Mills had the Connecticut hubs and dies, but before the Copper Panic would have made Connecticut coppers impossible to move. It also seems that Machin learned a lesson regarding counterfeiting Massachusetts coppers: that if he were to successfully circulate those, he would need to hew to a heavier standard than he did for his Connecticut, Vermont or New Jersey counterfeits. The remaining three counterfeit varieties of Massachusetts cents to be discussed seem to support that notion.

1787 Massachusetts Cent, Ryder 5-I
"Stout Indian"

Figure 5: 1787 Massachusetts Cent, Contemporary Counterfeit, Ryder 5-I.
(Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society)

Figure 6: At top, enlarged area of the date of the Ryder 5-I Massachusetts cent; below, the enlarged date of the reverse of the 1787 Machin's Mills, Vlack 19-87C. Note that the distinct flat-topped 1, the long limbed 7's and the oddly-formed 8 all match.

The Ryder 5-I gets its nickname from the rather portly depiction of the Indian on the obverse – an unlikely occurrence prior to the fast food era! – and is the portliest of the two obverse dies that feature a similarly unfit Indian. This is, by far, the rarest of the contemporary counterfeit Massachusetts cents, with just four examples known today, and one of those in a museum, the piece illustrated above. When Crosby wrote his book in 1875 he noted there was then just a single example known, in the collection of Charles Bushnell, while Walter Breen noted in his *Encyclopedia* that he had never seen one – though he likely had seen the ANS specimen at some point, since that piece was in its collection since 1943. It was rare enough that John Ford never owned one (though he had duplicates of each of the other three counterfeit varieties) – and since he obtained Hillyer Ryder's collection nearly intact it seems that Ryder lacked the variety as well.

This variety is also attributed to Machin's Mills – which is doubtless correct given the resemblance of the dates to known Machin's products, illustrated above. Note that the 7 punch used on the Ryder 1-B discussed earlier is likely the same as that used here, but was placed in that die at an angle, making those digits appear more slanted on the B reverse. But unlike that Ryder 1-B variety, this Machin's issue does not exist as an undertype for any other coin because that wasn't needed: it was struck on rather robust planchet stock that would have freely circulated alongside the genuine Massachusetts coppers. Indeed, the two examples whose weights are known are both ABOVE the stipulated weigh for genuine Massachusetts cents – one at 158.8 grains and the other at a whopping 170.7 grains!

This obverse is the only one in the series that pairs with more than one die, as it was also used to make the 1788-dated counterfeit Ryder 14-J discussed below. Whether this means that both these varieties were struck in the same year or that the obverse die remained serviceable and was used in consecutive years is unknown.

1787 Massachusetts Cent, Ryder 7-H
Another "Stout Indian"

Figure 7: 1787 Massachusetts Cent, Contemporary Counterfeit, Ryder 7-H.
(Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions, HA.com.)

The third variety to be discussed, 1787 Ryder 7-H, is another stout Indian design, though the figure is only slightly overweight compared to the Ryder 5-I, above. This variety is the most available of the four counterfeits – but just barely. Mike Packard records about a dozen known, compared to eleven of the Ryder 1-B (in its non-overstruck form). While most other Massachusetts counterfeits are well worn, this variety has a couple Uncirculated specimens known, including the Gem John Ford coin illustrated above (predictably, Ford had two of the variety, both nice). Also, certainly a Machin's Mills product, this reverse uses the same date punches – the 8 a bit tilted in the I reverse above and punched in straight on this one, with the same notch visible at the upper right loop of that digit. The obverse die must have broken early, and all known examples show that damage to varying degrees. Walter Breen considered this and the Ryder 5-I to have been struck by the same person, but thought the Ryder 1-B was made by someone else – he apparently didn't study the punch linkage in the date and elsewhere, and instead focused on the stylistic dissimilarity of the Indian's face on the 1-B.

Weights are available for four examples of this variety and are much tighter in range than any of the other three varieties, from 150.3 to 156.1 grains. This range compares very favorably with the genuine Massachusetts cents, and one would thus expect the Ryder 7-H to have succeeded in circulation – though we are left with two things to consider: 1) if these did pass in commerce why are there so few known today and 2) why are there several Uncirculated examples known? The answer to the first may be the obverse die breaks meant a limited mintage, but the second question remains a mystery.

Another mystery is that while the obverse die broke quickly the reverse clearly did not – yet it was only used in this combination. Machin likely had other Massachusetts obverse dies available (such as the Obverse 5 described above, which was reused with a

1788 reverse described below), and one would have expected this very usable reverse to have been paired with something else. Considering that Machin worked some dies until they disintegrated (see the reverse of the Ryder 13 Vermont "Britannia" variety, for instance) it seems very atypical for him to have abandoned a die in good working condition – unless, perhaps, this was the last variety of Massachusetts counterfeit he struck. If so, that could be the answer to our second question above – more survive in mint state because they simply didn't have time to circulate before the Coppers Panic set in. But unlike a classic "whodunnit" all we can do is make semi-educated guesses – with no detective neatly wrapping up the case in the final chapter.

The final Massachusetts cent counterfeit variety is the Ryder 14-J of 1788 – the only counterfeit dated this year (though of course dates were not exactly relevant to Machin, as can be seen from the 1747-1788 range for his counterfeit British halfpence, though most were likely struck from 1787-9 only.)

1788 Massachusetts Cent, Ryder 14-J
The Final "Stout Indian" Variety

Figure 8: 1788 Massachusetts Cent, Contemporary Counterfeit, Ryder 14-J.
(Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions. HA.com)

The obverse die is the same as used on the 1787 Ryder 5-I discussed above (Ryder numbered the dies of each year starting with "1," so this die received a different number in its 1788 pairing). The J reverse is certainly stylistically similar to the others discussed, but some of the letter and numeral punches are different – the 1 and 7 of the date on the Ryder 14-J appear the same as the above varieties, while the 8 is decidedly different. In the letter punches used on the J reverse the C has a much wider opening, and the S has a curious flat bottom. This is not unexpected in a larger coining facility and could mean that this die pair was made at a different time or by an engraver who used some different punches. We don't know much about the Machin's Mills facility since obviously no records were kept of their illicit coinage, but the large number of pieces known to have been struck there, as well as design differences within series does suggest more than one person there knew how to engrave a die, and there were likely more than one set of letter and numeral punches on hand.

There are eleven examples of the variety reported, putting it on par with the non-overstruck Ryder 1-B in terms of rarity. The Ford sale had two, including the Ryder plate coin. The majority seem to grade in the VF range, with perhaps just one Uncirculated example known, the Partrick specimen (this is likely the same piece as one described as ex Robert Vlack and Richard Picker), and is the example illustrated above. We have weights of four pieces available, 144.5 grains, 148.9, 156.8 grains and a surprisingly heavy specimen at 178.3 grains, topping the heavy Ryder 5-I described above. At these weight levels the variety at least competes with genuine examples and would likely not have been easily spotted as a counterfeit.

The Massachusetts counterfeits are indeed interesting. There are only a few varieties, all produced by just one coiner, the infamous Machin's Mill. They are all quite rare. There is just one example of die pairing within the series, unusual for Machin's productions. Also unusual is that there are no mules into other series, and the Massachusetts counterfeits are unknown overstruck on any other coinage. It has been traditionally thought that Captain Thomas Machin and his mint only made a profit by striking underweight issues – sometimes ridiculously underweight – which would allow the coins to be sold at a discount to their supposed face value, either to those who needed small change or those who could get them into circulation. But the Massachusetts copper counterfeits he produced were far more robust as a group: three of the varieties mimic the official weight standard (and occasionally best it), and the lightest examples of the fourth variety appear to have been mostly recycled into other coins.

So, we are left asking even more questions. Given the paltry number that survive today why were seven individual dies – three obverse and four reverses – needed to coin them (and why is there only one instance of die pairing between them)? There could have been a much larger coinage of course, with all but the heaviest pieces removed from circulation or melted down by Machin before they could get used – but this happened in none of his counterfeits for the other three state coinages he is known to have produced, and seems unlikely to have happened here. There was no notices in the contemporary Massachusetts newspapers warning of counterfeits, and had Machin been stuck with a large number of lighter weight counterfeit Massachusetts cents that he couldn't get into circulation he would have done what he normally did and used them as planchets to strike other coinages where the weight wouldn't be an impediment to their circulation. To this writer, the use of seven dies in this manner is the most confusing aspect of the Massachusetts counterfeit coinage!

The heavy weight of most of the counterfeits known would seem to argue against their being profitable to Machin. After all, the Massachusetts mint failed because it had cost them over £2,100 to produce just a bit over £900 worth of coins – meaning each coin cost them about double face value to produce at this weight level, and one would assume that Machin could not make a profit by using that same weight standard.

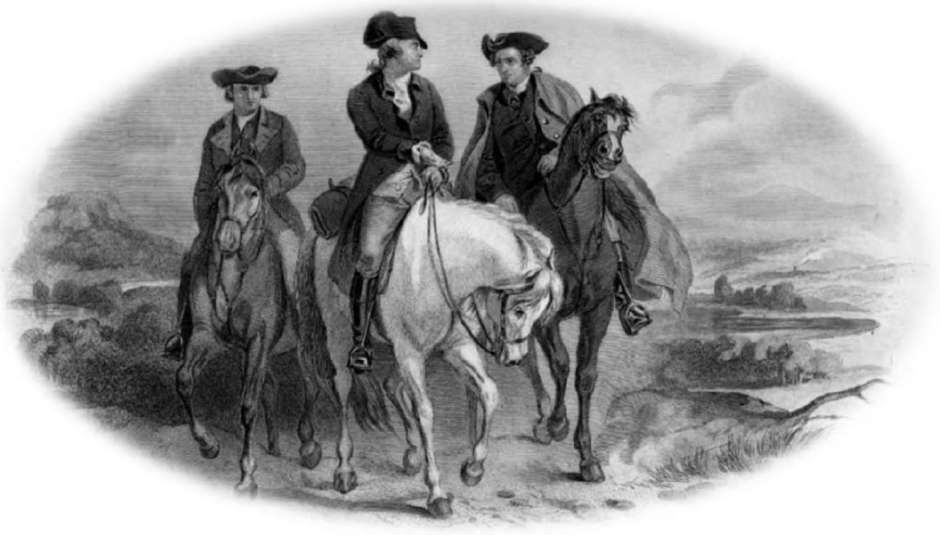
But this is an incorrect assumption, as over £1,700 of the cost in producing the genuine Massachusetts coppers were for the expense of the building and conducting business. Machin already had a minting operation set up, and the equipment he needed to make coins was already in place so there were no capital expenditures needed to strike even a small number of coins. The only real cost to Machin would be the copper planchets and the dies – he already had the building, equipment and was paying employees to strike other coins. When the Massachusetts mint figures are examined more closely we find that the cost of the actual copper purchased was slightly over £431 and it produced £939 of coins – that is, the cost of the copper itself was less than half of the face value of each coin produced at that mint. So, Machin could strike

counterfeit Massachusetts cents at full weight – or even heavier! – and still make money on them. This was true even if he added in to his balance sheet the cost of making those eight dies and the labor used to strike the Massachusetts counterfeits: Perkins made a bit under £4 for the 16 dies he produced for the Massachusetts mint (Callender charged significantly more per die, which is why he was replaced), and in the 1780s labor was cheap, so neither of these expenses would have changed the bottom line by all that much.

It appears that the reason Machin's Mills didn't make more counterfeit Massachusetts coppers isn't that it was unprofitable to do so – but that it just wasn't profitable enough to continue doing so. The copper in one of the extra-heavy counterfeit Massachusetts cents could produce two light weight counterfeit Connecticut, New Jersey or Vermont coppers – and given the large number of varieties (and the vast number of specimens known for many of them) those other coins must have been far easier to get into circulation. It just didn't make sense for Machin to expend resources in a market with a limited return when he had much more profitable ventures to pursue – at least until the bottom fell out later in 1789.

Massachusetts is most unusual in that it apparently had only one counterfeiter striking copies of their coinage. From what we've seen with the possible trajectory of Machin's output as described above, a lighter-weight counterfeit would simply not have worked in this state, and it would have been cost-prohibitive for someone without a building, equipment and tools in place to issue near or full-weight counterfeits. But it is still surprising that someone out there didn't try, even if it was just the proverbial blacksmith pounding out a few crude pieces to spend at the local pub.

Even in a case like this, where there are just a few examples known of even fewer varieties, the coins themselves have a story to tell – but only if we are smart detectives and open our ears and minds to what these witnesses are saying!



Virginia Delegates Edmund Pendleton, Col. George Washington and Patrick Henry on their way to the First Continental Congress, 1774

1786 VERMONT RR-7: REPUNCHED 1 IN DATE

(Jim Rosen)

While attending the recent C4 convention, I happened upon John Agre's table and perused four lovely landscape Vermonts he just recently acquired. I made an interesting observation while scrutinizing the RR-7 he had. The coin, the second Norweb specimen, lot # 1272, is a beautiful example of the type and well struck for the variety. I noticed while examining the coin and confirmed by John, that there appeared to be evidence of a '1' initially placed too low in the die only being replaced by a '1' punched higher in the die, with the result that a remnant of a base of the first '1' is seen below the final '1' and the flag of the initial '1'can be easily seen sticking out to the left of the final '1', three quarters of the way up the '1,' just below its flag.

Since returning home from Baltimore, I examined over a half dozen RR-7s, including the first Norweb coin, three of Ford's coins, those in Carlotto's book and my own and all of the '1's that were clear enough to be seen showed this repunching. I find it amazing that this "repunching" has not been discovered before or if it has been, it has not been reported to the best of my knowledge. It was not mentioned in Tony Carlotto's book, however the repunched '1' on the RR-8 was. Interestingly enough, in Crosby on page 181, the double punching of the '1' found on the RR-8 is mentioned but not this double punching. This repunching was not mentioned in Dave Bowers' recent book on the coinage of Vermont nor was there any mention of it in Ken Bressett's paper in 1976 on Vermont coinage and this observation is absent from any discussion of RR-7s in catalogues that I looked through. It is certainly possible that it has been mentioned before and that I have not found the reference, but I find it strange that this has not been publicized like the double punching of the '1' found on the RR-8 which is noted in Tony Carlotto's book and again in Crosby.

Taken together with Clem Schettino's observation of the RR-4 repunched '8', the RR-8 with its repunched '1' and this repunched '1' in the RR-7, it seems that the die cutter who punched in the date on these landscape varieties had problems with spatial relationships.

Again, like Clem's discovery, not earth shattering at all, but very interesting. If this was a bust half dollar, it would make headlines in Coin World and possibly given a new Overton number. I would love to hear from anyone who has a RR-7 without this repunch.

I appreciate the technical help from John Agre, his confirmation of this discovery as well as giving me permission to reproduce the image of his RR-7 in this article.

C4 AUCTIONS REPORT: THE ROBERT MARTIN AND E PLURIBUS UNUM COLLECTIONS

(Richard August)

The Robert Martin Collection

Bobby Martin was a well-respected, friendly, knowledgeable and passionate collector of Connecticut coppers, but what I will most remember about him were those many long evening conversations about Connecticut coppers on the phone. Many of those calls ended the next day! And they could even have gone on longer. I've never met anyone else who had so much interesting stuff to say about one subject. I will always remember him as being very kind-hearted.

First, my opinions about these coins are just my opinions and any one is free to have their opinions. I felt the grading was a bit all-over-the-place. I thought many coins were under-graded, or over-graded. The idea of a "technical" grade for a Connecticut is very difficult one to understand in my opinion. And it leads to two types of problems: A coin with a technical grade of say 40 can often be far inferior to a coin with a technical grade of 30. Likewise, a coin with a technical grade of 30 can often be far superior to a coin with a grade of 40. And this can lead to great distortions of condition census. I will try to use the term 40 net 30 (or 40>30) for the former and 30 net 40 (or 30>40) for the latter. That is, net grades are far more descriptive to me when I use just numbers to describe my coins and talk about them relative to other coins I've seen.

There were many highlights in this collection:

5063: 1785 3.3-F.3.This 1785 was a wonderful 55>55 which brought a well-deserved $4560. 1785s this nice are very rare.

5066: 1785 4.1-F.4.This was a lovely African Head with superb color and strike. I graded it 55>58 which was higher than the catalog grade. It brought $4080 which was a bargain.

5069: 1785 4.3-D.This was a lovely 45>45 and is one of the finest. At $4080 it was again well-deserved for this very scarce coin.

5075: 1785 7.1-D. This head left was wonderful. It was not cleaned, and it is, as Robert thought, one of the finest known. In the catalog it was graded XF details. I call it 45>45. It brought $2400, a bargain. So, I bought it. It was much nicer than mine. The obverse buckling and the reverse cud at 12 o'clock showed the coin was a late die state. Yet to see all 3 grape vines on the shield is incredible. The reverse was almost AU50.

5078: 1785 8-D. This is a rare head left variety, and it is very rare in this grade. I graded it 35>30. At $4320 it was a bargain.

5079: 1786 1-A ET LIB INDE. This is tough coin to find in upper grades. I called this coin 55>53. Even though I did not grade this coin 58+, as the catalog did, I still would call this coin a possible finest. The coin brought $6600, a bargain for the grade.

5083: 1786 2.1-D.3. This is a very rare R7-, Round Head. I graded it 25>15, as it had many obvious obverse and reverse flaws. Still it makes condition census, and it brought $7200. I own a 25>30 which may be the finest known.

5084: 1786 2.2-D.2.Although the catalogue called this just R6, I think this may be more like an R6+. I graded this coin 30>25, higher than the catalogue VF20. This Noble Head

is surely one of the finest, and possibly second or third finest. The Newman coin is clearly an AU 50>55, finest known by far. This lot brought $5280, a bargain.

5088: 1786 3-D.4. This is THE coin, the rare Scholar's Head, R7+, one of 4 known. This is by far the finest known. I call this 20>25. The coin was very under graded at F15 by PCGS. At $22,800 this coin was the bargain of the century, bought by a very wise man. I was shocked that it did not bring $75,000 or more .I think most everyone in the room knew where it's new home would be anyway, and out of respect, let it find home more quickly.

5091: 1786 4.2-R. While this coin is only an R6-, most examples are G to VG. I graded this coin 30>35, and it is the finest seen by me. The strike is excellent for this die. So, I bought this coin for $1680, a bargain for the grade.

5097: 1786 5.3-G Hercules head. This R7+ I graded 30>25. At $6600 this coin, too, was a bargain.

5111: 1786 5.10-L.While I graded this coin only 45>30 compared to the AU53 by PCGS, the coin is still one of the finest and high condition census. The price of $2640 was well deserved.

5113 1787 1.1-VV Small Head. As a R6+ this is the rare small head variety. I graded this 15>12. I wouldn't call this gouged but more like just lightly scratched. At $5040 this coin was another bargain.

5114 1787 1.2-C Muttonhead. Although common I graded this late state coin a 60>60, which was higher than the PCGS AU58. The coin brought $3120. It's a nice type coin.

5115 1787 1.2-mm, the rare Muttonhead. I graded this coin 35>35 just like PCGS. I call this the finest known, so at $26,400 this was also a great bargain.

5122 1787 5-P. This is a rare obverse type. I graded this coin 25>25 in agreement with PCGS. I thought this coin was much better than the first 5-P,and so did the bidders. $3120 was the winning bid for this condition census 5-P.

5125 1787 7-I Hercules head. I graded this 35>35, far nicer than the 25 given by PCGS. This coin went for $6600 to a very discerning collector. Again, this coin was a bargain and a condition census coin.

5138 1787/1877 12-Q.This coin was a lovely 55>55 just as it was graded by PCGS. This is a high condition 12-Q and a great type which brought $2160. A good buy.

5145 1787/1788 Connect 15-R. This is the R-7 CONNECT. I graded this a straight 55>55 coin and not just an AU details coin like PCGS. I believe it is the finest known for this die variety and type. For me it was the highlight of my acquisitions even at $13,800. I really did not think I would win this because it is a major type rarity and thus a bargain.

5146 1787 16.1-m. This coin was a beauty. I graded it 60>62 and possibly the finest known. It brought $3120, a bargain.

5158 1787 25-m. While this coin is only an R5+, my grade of just 45>45, and not 53 like PCGS, still makes this coin a possible finest known. It was good buy at $2400.

5175 1787 32.5-aa FNDE. This may be a common coin, but in this grade it is exceptional. I graded it 45>45 just like PCGS. The price of $1920 was well deserved.

5194 1787 33.10-Z.7. I only graded this coin 45>40,and the PCGS grade was AU53. Still this R6 is high condition census for the die. It brought a strong $3840.

5218 1787 33.21-k.4. Not only is this an R7- coin, but it is a spectacular double strike error. This is a very hard coin to grade, but I give it 35>30 and far nicer than PCGS suggests with VF 25. This coin may still be the finest known for variety, and I still don't this die in any grade that would satisfy me. Most other examples have major flaws. At $3120 it was another bargain.

5224 1787 33.28-Z.16 Snipe Nose. This is not a rare coin, but as a 55>55, PCGS AU55, it is possibly the finest and very appealing. It brought $6300, a solid price.

5225 1787 33.29-s.1. R7. I graded this coin only 25>25 while PCGS graded it VF35. Still it may be the finest known. It brought a healthy $6600.

5233 1787 33.34-Z.11. I graded this a choice 40>45 not an AU55 like PCGS. Still the coin is probably a finest known and it brought $1740, a good buy.

5252 1787 37.2-k.5 I graded this coin 45>45 just like PCGS. As such it may still be a finest known because the strike is bold. The coin brought $2280, a solid buy.

5258 1787 37.7-h.2 R6 I graded this coin 35>30 while PCGS graded it XF45. Yet again, even as a VF-XF, the coin is a probable finest known. It brought $3360, an appropriate price.

5269 1787 37.12-LL R6 I graded this coin 40>35 and not AU50 as PCGS did. But once again, the coin is still a possible finest known. So, it still brought a healthy $2160.

5276 1787 40-N AUCTOPI. R6. I graded this coin 40>40 and not XF45 as PCGS did. Once again this may be a finest known. The coin brought $2640, a bargain.

5289 1787 45-CC Hapsburg Jaw .While this coin is called just an R5+,I believe it is an R6.I graded the coin 50>50 in agreement with PCGS.I believe this coin is clearly the finest known, so I bought it for $2640,way below my maximum bid.

5292 1787 52-G.1 R6- Roman Head. I graded this coin just 20>20 and not VF30 as PCGS did. I thought the price of $5040 was rather strong considering. But maybe this type is more in demand than I thought. I own a nicer 30>30 which surprisingly may be the finest known.

5294 1788 1-I, RR39 R5+. Small Head. I graded this coin 45>35 due to its being off struck so you could see little of AUCTORI and ET LIB. Still this is condition census for this coin, and that's why it brought $7800. You may now wonder why I did not call this an outright XF45. But I recently saw what I would call a 55>55 finest known, sold by Kevin Vinton which is far superior to this wonderful coin.

5297 1788 3-B.1 R5+. This is truly a beautiful coin which I graded even higher than the AU53 given by PCGS. I call it 55>58. Its color is amazing. It brought $2400, a bargain.

5298 1788 4.1-B.1 R6. I feel this coin is not just an R5+ like the preceding coin but an R6. I grade it 55>58 choice and probably the finest known. It brought $6600 which was a bargain.

5300 1788 4.2-R R6+. This is a very tough coin to find, and it is even tougher to find in upper grades. I grade this coin 35>35 and not XF40 as PCGS did. Still 35>35 makes this coin the finest I've ever seen. It brought $3360, another bargain.

5318 1788 16.2-O INDL R5.I graded this 55>55 as did PCGS.I believe this coin is tied for the finest known. A price of $1800 was another bargain.

5319 1788 16.3-N struck over a Massachusetts 1-B cent (a Machin's Mills product.) I graded this 50>50, a tad lower than PCGS. This is a great coin which brought $4560, a bargain.

Conclusion

There were many great coins in this collection; there were many high condition coins; and there were many, many bargains. While I only bought five coins in this auction, I wish I had had more money to buy twenty. This was a very memorable sale for many reasons.

The E Pluribus Unum Collection

In my opinion, this was the greatest auction of New Jersey colonials in history. The room was packed. The air of expectation was intense. And the horses were chomping at the bit to leave the gate. And nothing was left to disappoint. Finally, collectors would have a chance to see and own some of the New Jerseys from the greatest New Jersey collection ever formed, by Bill Anton. Many high condition census coins were offered. I will give you my opinion of some of the highlights. Coins that I do not mention would be highlights in most any other auction.

6003 How can I not mention a nice AU silver St. Patrick "farthing" which brought $6600. This would be a nice prize for any New Jersey type set.

6004 And yet here is another silver St. Patrick "farthing" in choice VF for $5040.

6005 This copper St. Patrick farthing was a choice example, probably more like a choice XF45 but still well worth $5040.

6010 This Maris 8½-C was an amazing R8 which I graded at least VF20 and possibly 25. It brought $78,000, a well-deserved sum.

6011 This 9-G was clearly undegraded, too. It was a lovely VF25 but with reverse scratches. So where are you going to find another of this R7. This brought a healthy $66,000.

6012 This was only a lovely 10-G R6+ in VF+. It brought $12,600.

6013 A 10-gg R7+ in VF 35, but perhaps net VF 30, brought an astounding $96,000. This, and other coins mentioned here, are coins you get a chance to own only once in a lifetime.

6015 This 11 1/2-G, R7- was still one of the best of its kind even though I graded it only VF30 net 20. This brought a well-deserved $13,200 and it would surely have brought a lot more if the surfaces had been more pleasant.

6018 A 13-J R6 in VF 25 brought a bold $20,400.

6025 This 15-U R5+ to R6- had wonderful surfaces, and at $4080 was a bargain.

6026 This 16-J R6- was graded XF40, but I would grade if VF30. Still it brought $15,600, a very bold price.

6055 A 21-P may only be a R5, but in choice AU58 it is a great rarity. At $15,600 the bidders agreed.

6056 This 21-R, R7-, was very attractive for the grade of F12. It brought what I thought was a monstrous $43,200. The New Jersey market is very, very hot.

6057 Is this 21½-R, R8, really a duplicate in the Anton collection!?! OMG! You must grade this a very respectable VG8 even with the scratches. It brought $55,200, because you can't own the frontline Anton coin.

6058 This 22-P R7 is, in my opinion, VF20 net 15. It brought $24,000 nevertheless due to its rarity.

6064 Maris 23½-R R8. I would grade F12 net 10, but no matter it is still the second finest of only three. So, it brought $78,000, a healthy price.

6066 Maris 24-Q R7+ is yet another great rarity which I would grade higher as a VF 20 net 15 or 18. It brought $72,000.

6067 I think this 24-R was a sleeper, I called it a straight VF-XF 30 R6-. Apparently, the word "details" was the kiss of death here, since the coin brought only a paltry $2400 bargain.

6070 This lot was a superb 27-S R5- with a full obverse strike of the horse head. In AU50 it brought a well-deserved $12,000.

6089 This coin was two rarities in one: 34-V over 35-J. In XF it brought $28,800, a nice addition to someone's collection.

6091 I thought this 34-V R6 was a great steal. I graded it much higher at VF 30 with the most complete striking for the die that I have ever seen. Surely it should be considered a condition census coin, and it cost only $4320 for a smart buyer.

6094 This is yet another bargain lot. I thought this 36-J was an R7-. And even though I graded it just a net VG8, I think it might sneak into the condition census. Nevertheless, at only $2640, there might have been some gentlemen's agreements.

6096 A 37-X R6+ is no slouch, especially when it is a well struck condition census coin. I graded it 20 net 15, and it brought a well-deserved $19,200.

6105 This 38-Z R5 is not especially rare but it is especially nice, as it is third finest. It brought $12,000

6114 I liked this 40-b a lot. I graded it higher at VF20. This is a pleasant type coin which brought $7,200.

6123 A 44-c I thought was still an R7. And I thought this coin could be called F12. So, at $10,200 it was a great buy.

6142 This 49-f Head Left is not rare, but boy is it nice. As a choice XF40 it brought a whopping $45,600.

6152 I must mention this 54-k Serpent Head as it is so choice a strike for the AU55 grade. It brought $7800, a very good value for a major type condition census coin.

6184 This 57-n R6++ was a bit undegraded in my opinion. I called if VF 30. But it fairly rose to $22,800.

6185 I must mention this second 57-n. As a rare error of a rare coin it is a significant coin. You could grade this coin VF20 as well as F15. No matter, it brought $19,800.

6193 A 59-o is only an R5+, but one this choice is high condition census. I graded it XF45 and it brought $9,000.

6209 This 66-u is not very pretty, but it is very rare. As an R7+ it brought $28,800. This is a very hard coin to grade. Surely it has a technical grade of XF45, but...

6212 Maris 68-w is only an R5,but I graded this one XF45 which puts it in the top 3,so it still brought a strong $13,200.

6213 This 70-x R7- has always been one of my favorites. I might only grade this coin a VG8 or 10, but most coins from this die are a bit mangled due to the overstriking. This lot brought $19,200.

6214 Again this 71-y is another one of my favorites. I thought this was more like an R6+, and I graded this coin a net VG-F 10. A price of $8,400 was a solid buy.

6225 This 74-bb R5+ I graded a tad lower at VF-XF 30. It still ranks as a high condition census coin, and it brought a strong $18,000.

6234 A Maris 81-II has always been a bit of an enigma, like a Blacksmith New Jersey. This coin could be a VG to a VF, so I leave the grade up to you. As an R8 it deserved to bring $50,400. This proves the market for these coins is still strong after all these lots, and all the time spent bidding in the auction room.

8235 And to put an exclamation point and a period on this auction this lot was an 83-ii R7. I guess I'd call this a 35 net 20 coin. There is a sharpness of strike that may make me believe that the coin was close to mint when it was lost to the elements. It brought $22,800.

Early American Coppers

Colonials, Half Cents, Large Cents, and Hard Times Tokens and more. EAC comprises over 1,200 knowledgeable members located throughout the United States.

Benefits of Membership

Penny-Wise

This is the official journal for EAC. Well-respected among numismatic journals in the United States, it has won a number of awards from the Numismatic Literary Guild under the editorship of Harry E. Salyards since 1986. It is published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

EAC Website

All issues of Penny-Wise, back to the first issue in the fall of 1967, are available to the world on the Newman Numismatic Portal. Issues published in the last two years are available in the "Members Only" section of the EAC website. The Members only section includes a wealth of information, video and media presentations.

Annual EAC Convention

The EAC Convention is held in early spring. This year we will meet at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan. Meeting sites are rotated throughout the United States. In addition, EAC holds meetings and symposiums in conjunction with major coin conventions. They are the best way for new members to become familiar with early coppers and to meet others who share similar interests.

Region 8

Members enjoy a weekly newsletter email, consisting of submissions from other Region 8 members. Any EAC member can join Region 8.

Copper Notes and Dark Side

Copper Notes is EAC's online community, our very own private Facebook page. All EAC members are welcome but must request an invitation. Copper Notes is not visible to the general Facebook population. Enjoy real time conversations with the experts! Dark Side is a similar format discussing counterfit Coins and anomalies.

EAC yearly dues are $39.00. A junior membership (under 18) is available for $5.00

Join today by visiting www.eacs.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 is non-US resident.) They are payable on a calendar year basis… due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to: Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer; PO Box 25; Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner… It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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C4 25th Anniversary Medals

A limited number of medals are still available. Individual copper medals can be purchased for $13, and silver (one ounce, .999 silver) medals can be purchased for $43, or a set containing one of each for $48. These prices include postage.

If included along with an initial order, above, additional individual copper and silver medals are $8 and $35, respectively. Additional sets can be purchased for $40 per set as long as they are included with an initial order, to save on postage.
Checks should be made payable to C4 and mailed to Charlie Rohrer, C4 treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA, 17554.

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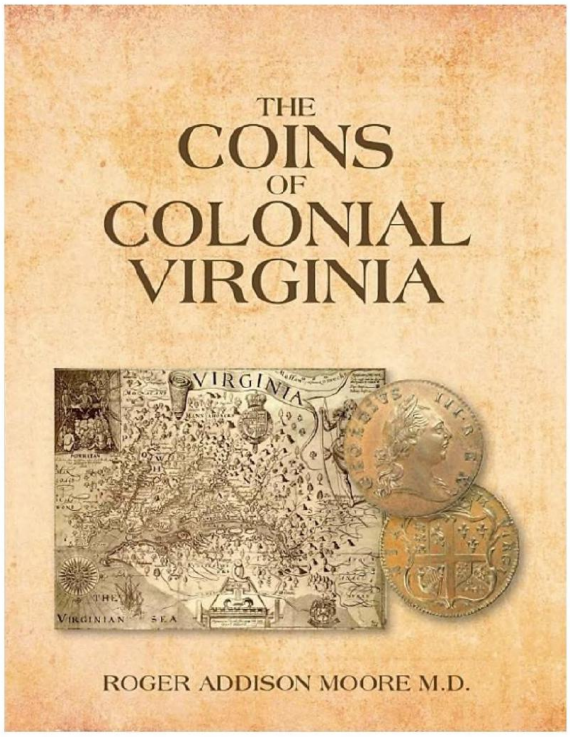
Notice of a Major C4 Library Donation:

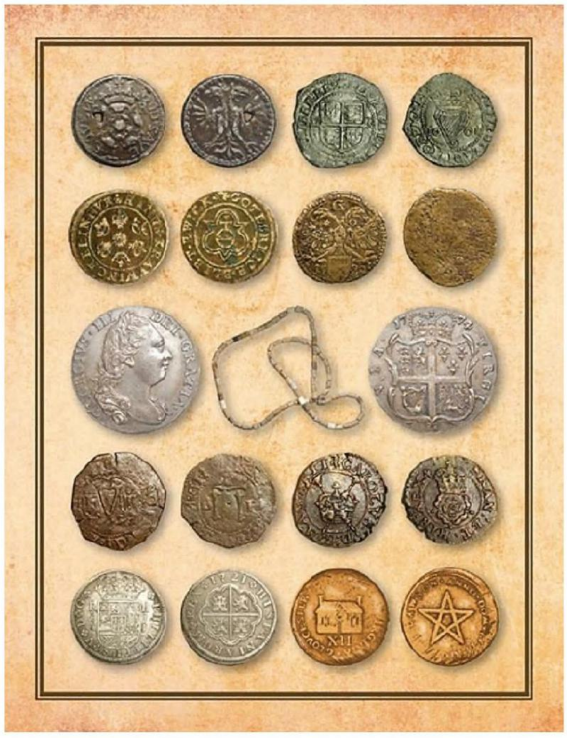
I would like to announce a major donation to the C4 Library. C4 Member Roger Siboni has donated a partial set of *The Numismatist* newsletter of the American Numismatic Association dating from 1894 to the present. Many of these issues are rare, very valuable and hard to come by.

This set has many fine articles and announcements and offers firsthand insight into the hobby as it existed during the late 19th century to the present. Many of the of the great names in numismatics are included in these pages. I will make an exact listing of the issues we have in the next month or so but what we have now is available for loan.

Thank You, Roger, for this fantastic donation.
Leo Shane, C4 Librarian

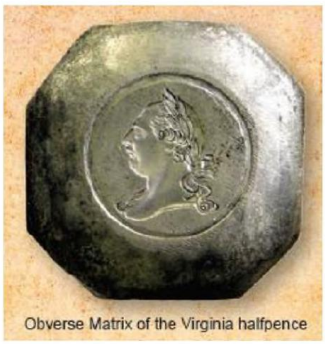
C4 Proudly Announces a New Book By Roger A. Moore!





The growth and development of Virginia into one of the most important North American colonies can be traced by the economic evolution of the Dominion State as it attempted to gain the necessary hard currency needed for commerce. The history surrounding the introduction of various coinages and the use of tobacco as a commodity currency over the 150 years leading up to the final authorization of the production of Virginia halfpence in 1773 is fascinating. Equally as absorbing are the twists, turns and dead ends encountered by the Virginia colonists as they sought authorization from the English Crown for their own coinage. It is ironic that the long-desired copper Virginia halfpence finally provided to Virginia under Warrant from King George III became available to the colonists only fifty days before the beginning of the American Revolution.

In addition to exploring the historic context in which colonial Virginia struggled to obtain hard currency, methods are provided for attributing and collecting the 30 known die varieties of the 1773 copper Virginia halfpence. The book also enumerates the specifics of the Virginia halfpence metrology, rarity, and grading, as well as their numerous forgeries, facsimiles, fantasies and oddities. Virginia halfpence can be appreciated and collected in nearly uncirculated condition and are important additions to any collection of American colonial coins.


Obverse Matrix of the Virginia halfpence

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Price: $95. Available beginning at the C4 Convention, November 14-17, 2019, from Charles Davis. Orders may be placed at Post Office Box 1; Wenham, MA 01984. Telephone: (978) 468 - 2933; Fax (978) 468 - 7893; E-mail: numislit@aol.com; Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 – -5:00 EST.
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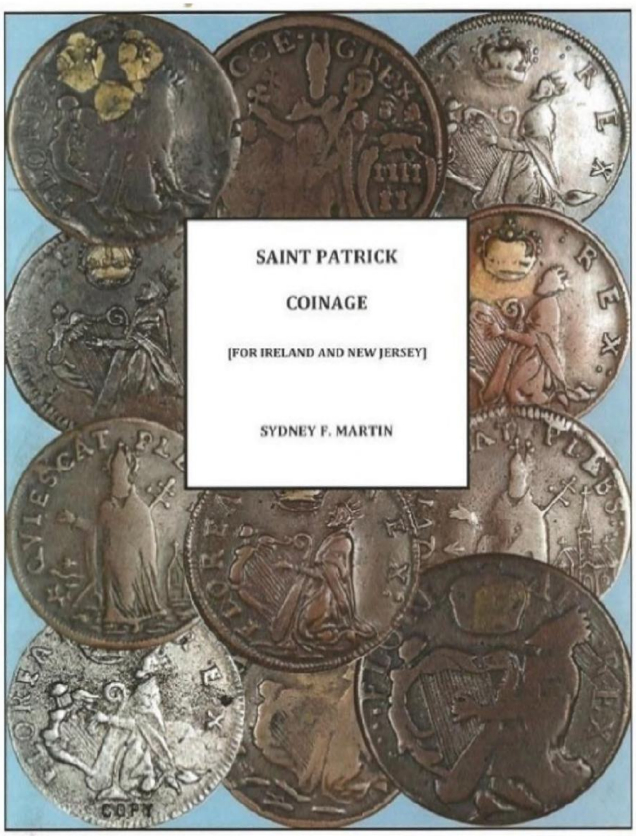
Last Year the Colonial Coin Collectors Club Released The Definitive Book on the St. Patrick Coinage by Sydney F. Martin

Boston – May 27, 2018, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, (C4), released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *Saint Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*. This is the fourth book published by C4 that has been written by Syd Martin, the former editor of the *C4 Newsletter* and current President of The American Numismatic Society. His other works are *The Rosa Americana Coinage* of *William Wood*, *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*, and *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. These books are all considered the standard references for these series today. Syd's latest work covers a series that has long vexed researchers on both sides of the Atlantic – the St. Patrick coinage. In researching this book Syd traveled to Ireland and spent many hours in the archives in New Jersey in search of clues, discovering some fascinating answers and developing several new theories regarding the coinage. This coinage has long been shrouded in mystery as to when and where it was made, and for what purpose. Syd discusses the theories that have been proposed so far, and the pros and cons of each plus some exciting new theories of his own.



According to Lou Jordan, the Curator of Numismatic Collections for the University of Notre Dame, this book is "groundbreaking!" Phil Mossman, former editor of *The Colonial Newsletter* (*CNL*), writes that "Syd has described in detail the visual imagery and icons symbolized on these coins by hand-engraved dies. A total of 197 varieties of small St. Patrick coins have been meticulously cataloged by him and presented in an easy to follow format." Mossman went on to state that "the nine varieties of large St. Patrick coppers, identified as a separate entity, are equally well presented." Christopher McDowell, editor of *CNL*, states that "this is the most important book on colonial numismatics to be published in many years. It is doubtful that this book will ever be surpassed in its coverage of the series. If you collect St. Patrick coinage or are interested in colonial numismatics, this book is a must-have."

In many ways this work is a collaborative effort, helped by many collectors who shared access to their St. Patrick collections for Syd to examine and photograph. The result is the first complete and illustrated catalogue of all known varieties in the series; unlike Syd's earlier three books, this one features color photographs. Other topics covered include the manufacturing history of the coins, literary discussion of the series, a history of their circulation in America, and a fascinating Appendix that includes what Syd calls "Miscellany." According to Phil Mossman, what

Syd calls "Miscellany" is actually "well-researched inquiries into the lineage of an elusive series." C4 is very proud to publish this book and its long association with Syd Martin.

The 528-page book is hardbound, with color illustrations throughout of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket. *Saint Patrick Coinage: For Ireland and New Jersey*, by Sydney F. Martin, is available for $95 for C4 members or $125 for nonmembers of C4, plus $7.25 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (numisbook.com,) Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

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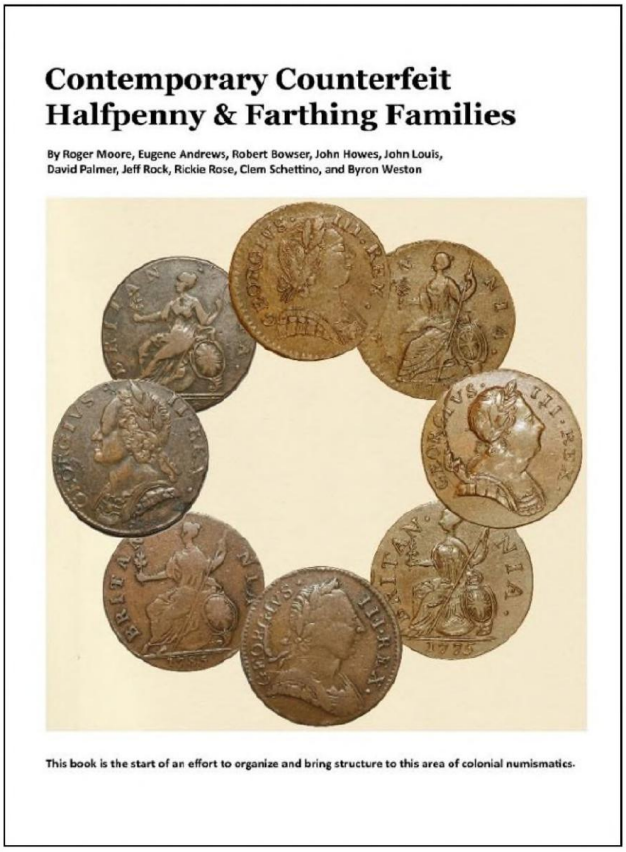
The Colonial Coin Collectors Club announces a 2nd printing:

CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT HALFPENNY AND FARTHING FAMILIES, 2nd PRINTING

By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston

This monograph is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics: it breaks down the vast number of different varieties into related groups called Families. A Family of contemporary counterfeits is a group of coins that likely came from the same minting operation at about the same time. Families are logical groups that share one or more of the following attributes: dies, die making punches, or similarities in the design style. This updated large format, glossy hardcover, 294 pages and profusely illustrated in color will be available in July for $54.95 from Barnes & Noble, Amazon books, and other mass market retailers. Check specifically for ISBN 978-1-64255-857-9.


Contemporary Counterfeit
Halfpenny & Farthing Families
By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston
This book is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics.

Comments on ***Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny and Farthing Families***:

Jim Rosen, Past President, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.:

"Finally, a wonderful and badly needed reference book of extraordinary importance that for the first time begins the monumental task of putting order to the unorganized field of counterfeit halfpence and farthings."

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FRENCH COINAGE SPECIFICALLY FOR COLONIAL AMERICA

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. This is the third colonial coin book published by C4 written by Syd Martin. Other works include *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood* and *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*. The Rosa and Hibernia books are now considered standard references for those coinages and Syd's long awaited new book is expected to become the leading reference works on French Coinage minted for circulation in North America. According to Lou Jordan, the curator of numismatic col-lections for the University of Notre Dame, "Sid Martin has written the definitive catalog of French coinage authorized specifically for use in North America." Jordan went on to state that "this is an essential book for anyone interested in the French coinage of colonial North America."

"What many early American coin collectors fail to recognize," Martin said upon the book's release, "is that from the 16th century until 1763, New France included much of what is now the United States, as well as most of Canada. As such, coins minted by France for circulation in its North American colonies should be considered 'coins of the realm' in these areas." Colonial numismatic expert, John Kraljevich, went on to explain that "the history of the French in what is today the United States is largely forgotten. However, the memory of these people and their coinage has been long cherished in Canada."

Jim Rosen, president of C4, predicts that "Martin's new book will awaken an interest in both the history of the French speaking people in North American and the coins they used such as the *Gloriam Regni* coins of 1670, the 6 and 12-denier copper coins minted in 1717, and the copper 9-denier coins from 1721 and 22, all of which were struck in France specifically for circulation in the Americas."

In the book's introduction, John Kraljevich writes that, "With Crosby-like flair, Syd has marshaled together the original documents that tell the stories of these coinages. Most have never been published at all, let alone in English or all in one place. This original research guarantees this work's importance to researchers in every forthcoming generation. The heart of this book, the die studies, offers several pathways for collectors to navigate these series, by basic type, by major variety, by die combination, or even by die state. It's a project that no one has ever even attempted before, an outlier in the world of colonial numismatics, a field that has seen multiple die studies of most of the popular series. Given Syd's well-organized approach and the thousands of coins he's studied, it may be generations before this work is supplanted. It's doubtful anyone will ever do it any better."

The 480-page book is hardbound, well-illustrated throughout with photographs of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket depicting French Coinage. The book is available for $85.00 plus $7.00 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (http://www.numisbook.com/), Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

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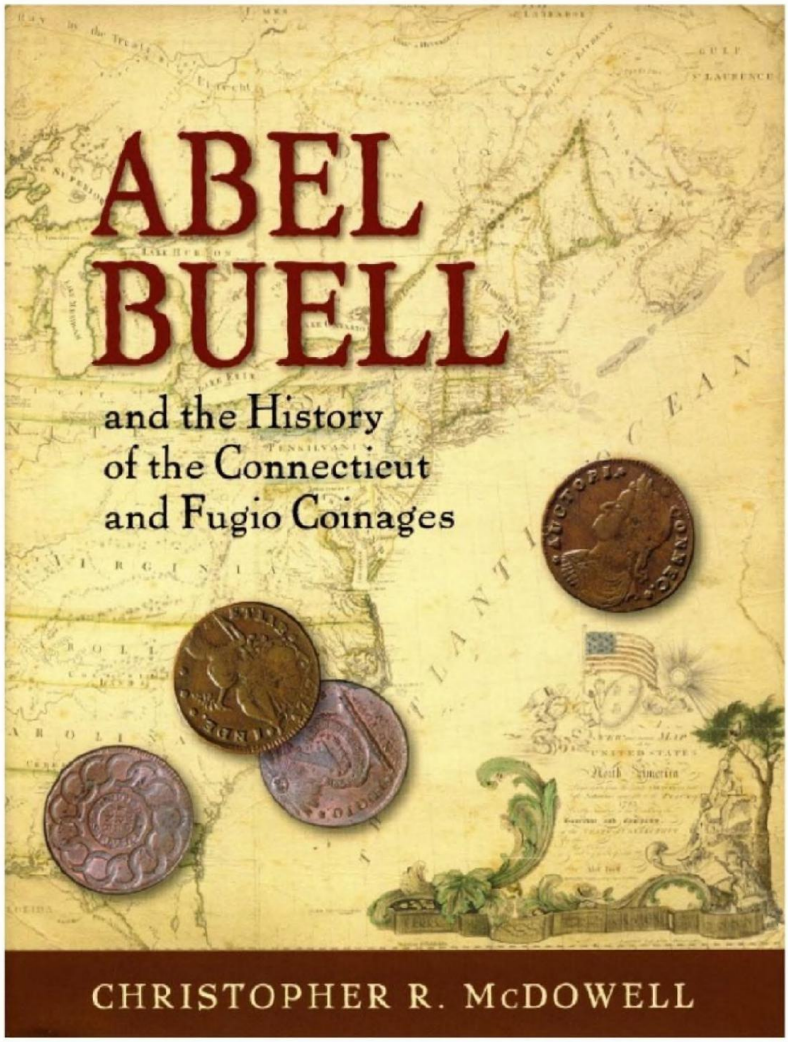
Support the C4 Club education initiatives buy this book:



In stock from Charles Davis Numismatic Literature:

Charles Davis
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PO Box 1
Wenham, MA 01984

or by phone at (978) 468-2933
or via email: charlesdavis@vcoins.com

C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

(1) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(2) McDowell, Christopher R., *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. Price $85.

(3) Martin, Sydney. *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2016. Price $85.

(4) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724),* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $50.

(5) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price $50.

(6) Martin, Sydney. *St. Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018. Price $95.

(7) Moore, Roger, *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2019, Price $95.

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PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jack Howes. The new provisional members are:

Tim Giambra – NC	Michael Harmon - CA	David Henry - NJ	James Irwin – MD
Donald Lott – PA	Tim Shelford – IN	Benjamin Smith – MI	Michael Sutyak - CT
	James Williamson – CA	John Wurzel - CA	

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I am in the process of researching information pertaining to the Talbot, Allum & Lee series. I am seeking assistance from C-4 members who may have knowledge regarding the evolution of the series and the coins that were issued. I possess the basic series including all mules. If you have any unique or off metal pieces, or a half cent struck over a Talbot piece I would love to have access to them if possible.

Please contact Arnold Miniman at ahminiman@gmail.com, or (201) 317-4199.

EAC PUBLISHES ECKBERG BOOK ON HALF CENTS

On May 1, 2019 Early American Coppers (EAC) proudly announced the publication of ***The Half Cent, 1793-1857: The Story of America's Greatest Little Coin***, by William R. Eckberg. EAC's second book, it is an important new reference on one of the first denominations coined by the United States of America.

This book tells the story of the half cent from its antecedents and models through its first release in 1793 to its end in 1857. Why did we ever have such a small denomination, anyway? Who made them? When were they made? How many are known of each variety? How are the coins graded today? All these questions and more are clearly addressed.

This hard cover book is 8½" x 11" and profusely illustrated in full color with high resolution photos. All business strike half cent obverses and reverses are illustrated by full color 3.5" photos.

Because of the way they were made, and because they were the money of the people, half cents have a charm and character that few other denominations can have, and this charm and interest come through clearly in the book.

Eckberg says he wrote the book because much new research about the coins' design, engraving and manufacture has been developed since the Cohen and Breen books of 35 years ago, and that has allowed him to correct a number of misconceptions about the series and other early coins of the U.S. Mint. This research, much of it by the author, has come from the study of early Mint documents and the coins themselves. His study of the early half cents' manufacture has provided important new insights into the operation of the early U.S. Mint and into how other denominations were created as well.

Dr. Harry E. Salyards, editor of *Penny-Wise*, the quarterly journal of EAC, writes:

> "Until now, the half cent has lacked an author able to write in an engaging conversational style while incorporating solid research evidence. As a trained scientist and lifelong teacher, Bill Eckberg is well suited to become the first to do so. Among the literature of early American copper as a whole, we have had homey narratives littered with pseudoscience, and *ex-cathedra* pronouncements aplenty. We have also had way too much 'history' written in the past subjunctive: narratives introducing each unsupported assertion with a phrase such as, 'Surely there would have been. . .'
>
> "You will find none of that sort of thing here. What you will find is the voice of an enthusiastic collector who has made some unexpected discoveries over the course of his thirty years' pursuit of the American half cent—a fascinating and still underappreciated series."

Every collection of U.S. coins should contain at least a few half cents. Scarcer *as a denomination* than the key Lincoln cent, the 1909-S VDB, they are truly rare coins. Yet, most half cents are remarkably affordable to the average collector. A U.S. series that is both rare and affordable? Yes! Still, most collectors only know them as type coins, if at all. This book will

serve as an interesting and informative introduction to the series for those who are unfamiliar with it and will provide enough new knowledge to satisfy even the most advanced specialists.

The book is available from http://halfcentbook.com. The cover price is $125, but members of EAC, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Numismatic Bibliomania Society and the American Numismatic Association may order it for $95 plus shipping. For quantities of 10 or more, please contact halfcent@icloud.com.

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THE C4 NEWSLETTER IS ON THE NEWMAN NUMISMATIC PORTAL!

Past issues of The C4 Newsletter, and a plethora of other important numismatic resources are now available online, through The Newman Numismatic Portal, at:

www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic

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RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or call.

*****

COMPLETE C4 NEWSLETTER CDs FOR SALE

C4 is making available on CD of a complete set of *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (vol.1, no.1) through 2011 (vol.19, no. 4.) The format is a fully searchable PDF files, which makes life and research much easier. Thanks to Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen for their vision and extremely hard work, which now lets us offer these wonderful research tools to you for $50 plus $4.00 p&h for members or $75 plus $4.00 p&h for non-members. To order, please contact either (a) Wayne Shelby at dughistory@juno.com or (b) Charlie Rohrer at RohrerC@cadmus.com or at P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554. Please send your check made out to C4 to Charlie Rohrer at the above address.

I need help in a project that will turn into a *C4 Newsletter* article on estimating the surviving population of State Coinages. I am developing a model but need to better understand how many NJ coppers collectors hold. Only aggregated data will be used. I am looking for

information on total number of NJ coppers, number recovered (dug), number purchased, and number sold in last 12 months or longer periods if available. I am looking for data from any size collections or accumulations.

J. Howes; 19967 East Doyle; Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; 313 319-1743

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Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $10 for the first and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

dughistory@juno.com 609-261-6662 (Home)

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob ..
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfzd5ZR~x~8=

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I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at csull@ku.edu.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Rates are shown below.

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	$300	$450	$600	$750	6" x 9"
1/2 page	$175	$250	$325	$400	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally $200 additional.) Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

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WANTED: I need five AJN's (Volume 24, Numbers 3 and 4; Volume 27, Numbers 1, 3, and 4). These are whole numbers 127, 128, 137, 138, and 140. All are scarce, and I am willing to pay fairly for any of them in decent condition. Contact me at sfmartin5@comcast.net. Thanks, Syd Martin

Todd Gredesky PO Box 102 Woodbury, NJ 08096
856-803-6102(cell) email: njtodd7@hotmail.com

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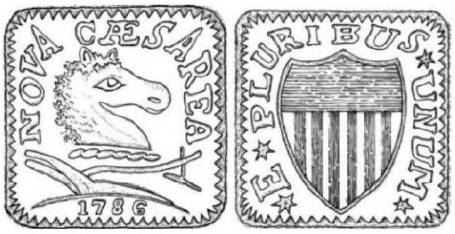
Nick D'Amico
30 Ovington Drive
Hamilton, NJ 08620
(201)923-4341



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